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15 June 1982

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

No. 2563

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PERSIAN GULF AREA

BRIEFS

BANK BUYS GRINDLAYS SHARES--London--A newly-formed Bahrain bank owned by Kuwaiti and Bahraini businessmen has emerged as the mystery buyer of an 11 percent stake in the London-based Grindlays Holdings. The London-firm holds 51 percent of Grindlays Bank. Citibank of the United States holds the rest. The Bahrain and Middle East Bank reportedly paid 10.4 million pounds (18.7 million dollars) to acquire the 11 percent stake previously held by Mass Development, another Bahraini financial company owned by a Kuwaiti, Mussad Al Saleh. The purchase was made a week ago, but the identity of the buyer was kept secret until the London stock market's time lag had expired. At the first Grindlays Holding company shareholders' meeting on Saturday, former Kuwait finance minister and adviser to the Amir, Abdulrahman Al Ateequ was elected chairman. The Bahrain and Middle East Bank was set up in 1981 by Gulf financiers and was granted investment banking and offshore banking licences by the Bahrain Monetary Authority.. [Text] [Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 21 May 82 p 1]

CSO: 4400/294

AFGHANISTAN

INTERVIEW WITH MUJAHIDIN LEADER

GF281614 Doha AL-RAYAH in Arabic 27 May 82 p 3

[Interview with 'Abdolrab Rasul Sayyaf, head of the Islamic Alliance for the Liberation of Afghanistan by Mahmud Tamman, in Doha--no date given]

[Excerpts] [Question] You are currently making a tour of the Arab countries in the Gulf region. The tour began with your visit to Saudi Arabia last week. You are now in Qatar. What is the aim of these visits?

[Answer] I visited Bahrain 7 days ago because they were observing "Afghanistan Week." I went there and spent 3 days, during which I met with a number of officials and explained to them the issue of Afghanistan and the current situation there. I then visited Saudi Arabia, but my visit was unofficial. I spent 2 days there and then I came to Qatar for the same purpose: to discuss the issue of Jihad in Afghanistan with officials here and with Muslims in this country. Of course, the Qatari people are known for their strict adherence to religion. I would like to place the issue of Afghanistan in front of the officials and the people and discuss with them recent developments regarding the Jihad in Afghanistan and its impact on the entire region. I will discuss all these issues with the officials I meet, God willing.

[Question] Does the aid the Afghan Mujahidin receive cover their needs? How do they live?

[Answer] Aid coming to the refugees from various parties all over the world covers their immediate needs, although they suffer from many difficulties in their lives. Some of these difficulties include, earning a living, medicine, clothing and other things, generally speaking, the refugees' plight is not extreme. Their life in Pakistan is normal, thank God. Of course, you know that a man who leaves his home, leaving everything behind, will face difficulties and that when the refugees arrive in Pakistan, they have a few difficulties until they get their names registered, because only then can they receive tents. However, after their names are registered, they receive all their necessities.

[Question] Sheykh Sayyaf, what about Muslims in the Soviet Union, and particularly in the republics bordering Afghanistan? Is there an Islamic revival in them?

[Answer] Jihad has moved the Islamic people under Soviet occupation. Many of the Russian dead are taken back to their country. Of course, the Russians wanted to keep the issue of Jihad in Afghanistan from their peoples. But due to the movement of the soldiers, the issue of Jihad has spread among the people in the republics who are under occupation. Consequently, an Islamic awakening and revival has started to be felt, but it is an underground movement. Furthermore, some Muslims fled the Soviet Union and crossed the river of Jehun and came to us. We took them to our camps. They say that there is a promising Islamic movement and that this has annoyed the Russians. Thus, the Russians are determined to stay in Afghanistan because they are worried about their entity in their own country.

CSO: 4604/36

DETAILS OF KARMAL'S MISSION TO THE GDR PUBLISHED

Reception in East Berlin

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 20 May 82 p 1

[Text]

BERLIN, May 20 (Bakhtar).— Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the PDPA CC and President of the RC, heading a high-power party and state delegation, arrived here yesterday for an official friendly visit to the German Democratic Republic.

Karmal and the members of his delegation were warmly welcomed at the Berlin airport by Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Socialist Party of Germany and Chairman of the GDR State Council, and other prominent party and state leaders of that country, a great number of Afghan students and toiling people of Berlin.

The plane carrying Karmal and his companions, escorted by a number of jet planes of the GDR Air Force from the border to Berlin, touched down at the Berlin International Schoenefeld Airport yesterday morning.

On alighting from the plane, Karmal was warmly welcomed near the plane by Erich Honecker who welcomed him to the historical city of Berlin. A child

presented bouquets of red flowers to Karmal.

The band played the national anthems of the DRA and the GDR. A guard of honour by the land, sea and air forces, was presented with a 21-gun salute. After accepting the salute of the guard of honour, the leaders of the countries reviewed it.

Then they went towards the airport terminal, where a large number of GDR party and state officials had lined up to welcome the guest.

Karmal shook hands with Willi Stoph, GDR Prime Minister, members of the Politburo, and Secretaries of the Central Committee of the SED and members of the CC and the Council of Ministers, senior army officers of the GDR, high-ranking Government officials and ambassadors of friendly countries residing in Berlin.

Afterwards, the leaders of the two countries went to the special rostrum where the guard of honour marched past.

Thousands of Berlin citizens, including women,

men, youth, and students, warmly welcomed Karmal and his companions by chanting slogans and clapping.

The citizens carried hundreds of streamers in the Dari and German languages as well as portraits of Karmal and the party and state flags of the countries, thus demonstrating their sentiments.

Some of the streamers read, 'Greetings to the brave Afghan people', 'Long live the friendship and amicable relations between the PDPA and the SED', 'Long live the internationalist proletariat', and 'Long live the friendship between

the DRA and the GDR'.

At the end of the airport ceremony, the leaders of the two countries, their motorcade being escorted by a number of motorcyclists, left the airport for the Niederschoenhausen Palace, where the Afghan guests are staying.

Honecker accompanied his esteemed guest to the official residence and had tea with him.

The airport and the routes from the airport to the official residence were bedecked with national and party flags of the two countries. Welcoming streamers could be seen at the airport and the routes.

From the airport to the official residence, the citizens of Berlin and toiling people of that city welcomed their Afghan friends by waving the flags and clapping.

Another report says: Laying wreaths on the memorial in Berlin, Karmal on Wednesday afternoon paid homage to the victims of fascist barbarity and militarist despotism as well as to the soldiers fallen in the battle for the liberation of Berlin from fascism.

Subsequently, Karmal went to see the memorial to the Soviet heroes who died in the battle for Berlin in 1945.

Karmal, Honecker Sign Treaty

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 22 May 82 p 1

[Text]

BERLIN, May 22 (Bakhtar).—The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and German Democratic Republic concluded a Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation here on Friday.

The important document, based on the existing relations of traditional friendship, anti-imperialist solidarity and trustful cooperation, was signed by Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the PDPA CC and President of the RC, and Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the CC of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the GDR State Council, during a ceremony at the State Council Building.

The two party and state leaders also signed a joint declaration on the official

friendly visit to the GDR by a party and state delegation of the DRA.

In the presence of the two countries' party and state delegations, headed by Honecker and Karmal, members of the two delegations signed other agreements.

These concern cooperation between the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany until 1987 as well as between the DRA and GDR in the fields of economy, industry, science and technology, and health care.

The two sides also concluded a consular agreement.

It was announced that Honecker had accepted an invitation by Karmal to visit Afghanistan.

Text of Friendship Treaty

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 24 May 82 p 2

[Text]

Following is the text of the Treaty of Friendship and cooperation between the German Democratic Republic and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan:

Acknowledging the relations of traditional friendship, anti-imperialist solidarity and trustful cooperation existing between the two states and peoples,

Desirous of further developing and strengthening these relations,

Which accord with the national interests of the peoples of both states and contribute to a more stable peace and greater security in the world,

Determined to safeguard and consolidate the revolutionary accomplishments of the peoples of the two states and to work for the unity and cohesion of all forces who stand up for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress and against imperialism, hegemonism, colonialism, neocolonialism and racism in all forms and manifestations,

Guided by the desire to labour towards further strengthening peace and security in Europe, Asia and the world at large and to help develop relations between states with different social systems,

based on the principles of peaceful coexistence,

Imbued with the noble ideals of the struggle for national independence and social progress,

Reaffirming their loyalty to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Have resolved to conclude this treaty and have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE — 1

The high contracting parties declared their resolve to strengthen and further broaden the relations of traditional friendship and anti-imperialist solidarity between their states and peoples, based on the principles of sovereign equality of states, territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs and equality of rights.

ARTICLE — 2

The high contracting parties will expand their cooperation in the economic, scientific and technological fields. They will develop cooperative links in industry and agriculture as well as in the training of skilled personnel, and expand their trade on the basis of the principles of equality of rights, mutual benefit and most-favoured nation treatment.

ARTICLE — 3

The high contracting parties will expand their cooperation and exchange experience in science, culture, art, literature, education, including higher and technical education, health, the press, radio, television and cinematography, sports and in other fields. They will encourage, contacts and cooperation between Government agencies and civic organizations, and expand direct contacts between cultural and scientific institutions in order to increase mutual knowledge of the life and work and of the experiences and achievements of their peoples.

ARTICLE — 4

The German Democratic Republic and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan follow a policy of peace and international understanding, which is aimed at strengthening friendship and cooperation among all peoples.

The German Democratic Republic values and respects the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's policy of nonalignment, which is directed towards the preservation of peace, detente and international security.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan appreciates the German Democratic Republic's foreign policy for peace, which derives from the nature of the socialist state, and regards it as an

important factor for the preservation of world peace, detente and international security.

ARTICLE — 5

The high contracting parties will continue to make an active contribution to the fight for international peace and security and for the struggle to prevent a new world war. They will make every effort towards resolutely continuing, deepening and extending the process of detente as well as towards achieving general and complete disarmament, including nuclear disarmament. Both sides advocate settling all international disputes by peaceful means, without prejudice to the right of states under the United Nations Charter to individual or collective selfdefence against an aggression.

ARTICLE — 6

The high contracting parties will continue to stand up resolutely for the observance of the generally recognized principles of territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of other states as key conditions for the peoples' living together in peace.

They consider the inviolability of the frontiers having emerged between states in Europe after World War II, including that between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany, as an important prerequisite for safeguarding peace and security

in Europe. They support efforts which are aimed at strengthening peace and security in that region.

Both sides back up the Asian people's striving for peace, security, self-determination and national independence, and work for a comprehensive political settlement of the existing problems, which is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence. They support all proposals based on equality of rights and equal security and which serve peace, security and peaceful cooperation among states and peoples in Europe, Asia and other world regions.

ARTICLE — 7

The high contracting parties will continue to work for the implementation of equal rights for peoples and their right to self-determination and oppose any form of the oppression of peoples and the violation of their basic rights.

They will continue to cooperate closely in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, and racism in all forms and manifestations.

They will support all efforts aimed at the full implementation of the United Nations declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, and they will always practise active solidarity with all peoples fighting for their

freedom, independence, sovereignty and social progress, and cooperate with other peace-loving states to this effect.

ARTICLE — 8

The high contracting parties support the establishment of a new international economic order on an equal and democratic basis. They reaffirm the sovereign right of the peoples to exercise full control over their natural resources.

ARTICLE — 9

The high contracting parties will inform each other and consult on problems bearing upon their mutual relations, as well as on international issues of shared concern.

ARTICLE — 10

Both high contracting parties solemnly declare

that they will not enter into any alliance or participate in any step or action directed against the other party.

ARTICLE — 11

The high contracting parties declare that the provisions of this treaty do not conflict with their obligations arising from valid international agreements, and undertake not to enter into any international agreement which is inconsistent with this treaty.

ARTICLE — 12

Any questions which may arise between the high contracting parties with regard to the interpretation or application of the provisions of this treaty, shall be resolved by bilateral negotiations in a spirit of friendship, understanding and mutual

respect.

ARTICLE — 13

The present treaty shall be valid for a period of twenty years after its entry into force.

It shall be extended for successive terms of five years, unless one of the high contracting parties gives written notification, not later than twelve months prior to the expiry of the current term, of its desire to terminate this treaty.

Done at Berlin in two originals, each in the German and Dari languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the German Democratic Republic Erich Honecker.

For the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal.

Significance of Treaty

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 24 May 82 p 2

[Editorial: "DRA-GDR Treaty: New Vistas of Cooperation"]

[Text]

One of the extremely important and valuable outcomes of the historical and friendly visit to the GDR of Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the PDPA CC and President of the RC, at the head of a high-power party and Government delegation, has been the conclusion of a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. The treaty was signed by the

party and state leaders of the two countries in Berlin on May 21 (Saur 31, 1361).

The treaty will further expand the friendly relations and strengthen the anti-imperialist solidarity and goodwill cooperation between the two countries, and will open new vistas for fraternal ties and broad cooperation in the economic and social fields.

Article Two of the treaty in this regard says: "The high contracting parties will expand their cooperation in the economic, scientific and technological fields. They will develop cooperative links in industry and agriculture as well as in the training of skilled personnel, and expand their trade on the basis of the principles of equality of rights, mutual benefit and most-favoured nation treatment".

Similarly, the treaty provides for expansion of cooperation between the two countries in science, culture, art, literature, high and vocational education, and public health, among other fields.

The commitment to friendship and solidarity of the peace-loving and progressive countries of the world with revolutionary Afghanistan is increasing, and it is being consolidated on an unshakeable foundation. Such solidarity and friendship help Afghanistan fulfill the lofty aspirations of the Saur Revolution and bring about revolutionary transformations in the country.

The German Democratic Republic, as one of the peace-loving and advanced countries of the world, has traditional, friend-

ly and fraternal relations with the people of Afghanistan. These relations have entered a qualitatively new stage following the Saur Revolution, especially its evolutionary phase.

The Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the State Council and the people of the GDR have expressed their decisive and fraternal solidarity with the people of Afghanistan for safeguarding the gains of the revolution and in the struggle against counter-revolutionary elements who have been armed to the teeth by imperialism, hegemonism and the reaction of the region and who continue an undeclared war against the people of Afghanistan.

The fraternal relations and internationalist ties between the peoples, parties and states of the two countries are based on a firm foundation and principles of respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other and equality of rights and these relations are increasingly consolidated and expanded.

The DRA and GDR have already signed a number of agreements since the revolution and especially its new, evolutionary phase, for the training of

party and state cadres and award of scholarships, among other things. All these have helped greatly to promote the relations between the two countries to a higher level.

However, the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation will undoubtedly further strengthen the fraternal relations already existing between the two countries and will open up new horizons of cooperations and disinterested friendship between the two countries.

The visit to the GDR of the DRA high-power party and state delegation, the talks held over issues of mutual interest as well as international questions, and conclusions of agreements and the treaty will have a far-reaching impact on the process of further deepening and consolidation of the bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

The visit has highlighted the fact that, notwithstanding the undeclared war unleashed by imperialism, hegemonism and reaction against the DRA, revolutionary Afghanistan enjoys broad support in the world arena of forces that stand resolutely for peace, democracy, freedom and social progress.

AFGHANISTAN

KESHTMAND SPEAKS ON 'COUNTERREVOLUTION'

LD010558 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Kabul, 31 May (BAKHTAR)--Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA said today that the people of Afghanistan have been able to annihilate the important centres of the counterrevolution, to break the organized resistance of the counterrevolutionary bands and not to leave any chance of confrontation for them with the help of valourous and heroic men and officers of the armed forces of the DRA.

He was speaking at a ceremony for the distribution of certificates of the graduates of higher institutes of the armed forces including military academy, air academy, academy of air defence and technical college of the armed forces of the DRA held at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA here today.

Congratulating the graduates, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand added 'We are fully confident that everyone of you will develop ever further a high spirit, preserve the revolutionary honours and the becoming behavior of an officer of the army of the new type and perform military sacred services sacrificially.

Speaking on behalf of the Ministry of National Defence, general department of the political affairs and chief of staff, General 'Abdol Qader, caretaker of the Ministry of Defence, assured that the men and officers of the DRA armed forces will be devoting all their efforts for the consolidation of battle preparedness of the army regiments and units for confident defence from the gains of the revolution and the implementation of the decisions adopted by the countrywide PDPA's conference.

CSO: 4600/508

BRIEFS

AFGHAN, SOVIET TROOPS CLASH--Islamabad, 18 May (SPA)--The Mujahideen (freedom fighters) inflicted heavy casualties on Soviet troops and destroyed 40 Afghan Government military vehicles in south-eastern Afghanistan last week, Western diplomatic sources said here today. The battle, described as the fiercest encounter this year, took place on May 10 around Afghanistan's second biggest city, Qandahar. Diplomats in Islamabad talked of major clashes around Qandahar during late April and early May. The Mujahideen, according to these sources, infiltrated Qandahar on May 10 and made daring attacks on Afghan troops stationed in Den-Khoja District of the town. In another major battle in Qal'a-borjak area of Wardak Province, west of Kabul, some 40 Afghan Government troops were killed by Mujahideen on May 13, the same sources said. Meanwhile, urban terrorism continued unabated in the Afghan capital, Kabul, during last week, the sources said. They added that a loud explosion in a Soviet-built housing complex, east of the American Embassy in Kabul, resulted in the death of at least five Afghan soldiers on May 16. Two Afghan Communist Party members were assassinated in a Kabul district on May 11, the diplomats said. [Text] [LD182014 Riyadh SPA in English 1919 GMT 18 May 82]

SOVIET TROOPS KILLED--Mashhad, 22 May (IRNA)--Some 50 Soviet forces were killed and one Soviet tank was destroyed during a clash recently between Afghan Mujahideen and Soviet armoured forces, according to one of the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries. Meanwhile, seven (Moy) Soviet tanks were destroyed by mines planted by Afghan Muslim combatants in Malak, Herat Province last month. [Text] [LD222136 Tehran IRNA in English 1917 GMT 22 May 82]

HERAT AFGHANS RETURN--In consideration of the return of the compatriots who had left their (?homeland) as a result of the venomous propaganda of the enemies of the (?revolution), 21 persons and 4 families from Herat Province returned to the country recently near Islam Qala. They were welcomed at Islam Qala by the officers and soldiers of the [name indistinct] forces. [Text] [GF291927 Kabul Radio in English to South Asia 1500 GMT 29 May 82]

AFGHANS RETURN HOME--In continuation of the return of the compatriots who have been deceived by the hostile propaganda of the enemies of the country and the revolution and had left their houses, 60 other families have returned to the country through Towr Kham. These compatriots, who belonged to Nangarhar, Kunar and Laghman provinces in the eastern Afghanistan, were received at the border by officers and soldiers of the border forces. According to another report, 35 other families belonging to Bati Kot (Nader Shahkot) Shenvar District of the county have also returned to their homes

and have pledged all kinds of cooperation for the defense of the gains of the revolution and in particular in its new revolutionary phase. Upon their arrival the compatriots were received by party cadres and a number of toiling people of their district. [Text] [GF021839 Kabul Radio in English to South Asia 1530 GMT 2 Jun 82]

SOVIET VETERINARY AID--Kabul, 27 May (BAKHTAR)--Soviet Union will provide a considerable quantity of veterinary medicines, and medical equipment for veterinary hospitals as gratis aid. This aid is being rendered under the decisions adopted at the joint DRA-USSR veterinary conference held last year. [Text] [LD280640 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0420 GMT 28 May 82 LD]

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES KILLED, CAPTURED--Kabul, 27 May (BAKHTAR)--A group of nine counter-revolutionaries who were disrupting the tranquillity and peaceful life of the working people of (Ghale Sowe) of (Raqhe) [names in parentheses as received] district of Badakhshan Province, was wiped out by the security forces. Assorted arms and ammunitions were also captured from these bandits. In another operation in Bagrami three ringleaders of the counterrevolutionaries were captured in (Guler) village with their arms by the party activists of that district. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0422 GMT 28 May 82 LD]

AGREEMENT WITH UN FUND--Kabul, 26 May (BAKHTAR)--An agreement on economic and technical assistance was signed between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and capital development fund of the United Nations here today. This agreement has paved grounds for the grant of gratis aid by the U.N. Capital Development Fund to the DRA for the projects launched by the DRA Government. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 27 May 82 LD]

PANJSHIRI MEETS POLISH ENVOY--Dastagir Panjshiri, PDPA Central Committee Politburo member, this morning [26 May] at his office met Edward Baradziej, Polish ambassador and Doyen of Kabul's diplomatic corp, and discussed topics of mutual interest. [Text] [Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1630 GMT 26 May 82 LD]

HERAT CITIZENS, OFFICIALS--Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and head of National Committee of the National Fatherland Front, yesterday met hundreds of notables, ulema, elders, members of social organizations, members of agricultural cooperatives, members of the PDPA Central Committee in the province, laborers, peasants and members of national fatherland front in Herat Province. They discussed the goals of the National Fatherland Front. Dr Ziray spoke about the [words indistinct] and state for the happiness of all toilers and the building of a free society for the toilers of Afghanistan. He asked the masses of Herat Province to unify their ranks in order to achieve the progressive goals of the party and state with the aim of establishing a just and modern Afghanistan and removing the remnants of elements traitorous to the homeland, the masses and the revolution. He also asked them to rally behind the National Fatherland Front. The chairman of the National Fatherland Front Committee in Herat Province and director of Islamic affairs in the province then announced the people's full readiness to achieve the goals of the Afghan National Fatherland Front. It was also reported that Dr Saleh Ziray yesterday inspected work at the office of the National Fatherland Front Committee in Herat Province. He issued instructions to officials on carrying out their important duties. [Text] [GF311850 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 May 82]

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC SUPPORT--The Muslim Afghan Mujahidin have issued a statement in which they blessed the recent victories that have been achieved by the soldiers of Islam in liberating Khorramshahr. They reiterated their support for the Islamic Republic of Iran under Khomeyni's leadership. The Muslim Afghan Mujahidin expressed the hope that liberating Khorramshahr will be a beginning for the liberation of the occupied Islamic territories in Afghanistan and Jerusalem from western and eastern imperialism. [Text] [GF291313 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 29 May 82]

'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' ELIMINATED--Reports from security officials in the provinces of Qonduz and Baghlan in the north of the country say that a gang of counterrevolutionaries has been eliminated in the capital of Baghlan Province and in villages in Qonduz Province. Security forces captured various weapons from the gang. [Text] [GF311854 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 31 May 82]

CSO: 4604/36

COUNTRY'S STAND ON ISRAEL-LEBANON SITUATION

Stand on Israeli Attacks

NC051546 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Jun 82

[Text] Egypt has held several contacts to follow up the latest developments in Lebanon in light of the Israeli aggressions on southern Lebanon and Beirut.

Dr Butrus Ghali has held contacts with U.S. officials, the Egyptian Embassy in Washington, the Egyptian Embassy in Israel and the French ambassador in Cairo.

Ghali pointed out Egypt's stand on the Israeli aggressions on Lebanon, summing it up in the following points:

1. The need for a cease-fire.
2. Respect of Lebanon's sovereignty.
3. Making clear the dimensions of the gravity of the situation in Lebanon and affirming that the continued deterioration of the situation in Lebanon threatens the area's security and stability and constitutes an obstacle toward the establishment of comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

'Ali Comments on Raids

NC041942 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 4 Jun 82

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jun (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has made an exclusive statement to MENA commenting on the air raids which Israel launched today on Lebanon.

In his statement, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Egypt appeals to all sides to exercise the maximum degree of self-control and to work at not escalating the situation with a view to safeguarding lives and preventing bloodshed, particularly since the area needs more stability. He said that violence and acts of aggression will not, in the end, lead to the establishment of any kind of stability in the area, but that efforts must be made toward adhering to a cease-fire.

Cheysson Message on Lebanon

NC051552 Cairo MENA in English 1430 GMT 5 Jun 82

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jun (MENA)--State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali received a message today from French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson.

French ambassador here Philippe Cuvillier handed over the message to Ghali during their meeting today.

The meeting dealt with the deteriorating situation in Lebanon following the latest Israeli assaults on Beirut and southern Lebanon.

Assembly Committee Denounces Aggression

NC062222 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2045 GMT 6 Jun 82

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jun (MENA)--The People's Assembly Arab Affairs Committee has denounced the abominable Israeli aggression against the villages and towns of fraternal Lebanon and described this action, which has caused the deaths of many men, women and children, as barbaric.

In a statement it issued today, the committee added that the whole Arab nation is called upon to display its solidarity and to concert its energies to support its legitimate right and stand on the side of Arab right with all material and human means.

The committee expressed its support of President Husni Mubarak's appeal to the two sides to maintain self-restraint, quiet and level-headedness and to abide by the cease-fire. It also expressed support of the government's diplomatic and political activity.

The statement said that Egypt, which adhered to peace as a firm principle in its policy, wants to make it clear that peace does not mean letting matters reach such a dangerous level. It wants to make it clear to the world that the way of peace is more difficult than the way of war.

The committee called on all the sides to arrive through dialogue and negotiations at a solution of their international problems in accordance with the principles of international law in order to safeguard a just and comprehensive peace in this area.

At the end of its statement the Arab Affairs Committee renewed its full support for the Palestinian right to self-determination on their land, and affirmed that Jerusalem is Arab by virtue of its history and position.

CSO: 4500/187

EGYPT

MUBARAK VISITS FACTORIES IN SHUBRA AL-KAHYMAH

NC031548 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1355 GMT 3 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Cairo, 3 Jun (MENA)--President Husni Mubarak, within the framework of the series of sudden visits he is making to production localities, this morning made a sudden visit to Shubra al-Khaymah industrial area to familiarize himself with the progress of work there and give the necessary instructions and directives so that the masses' needs of production commodities will be met.

The president's visit to Shubra al-Khaymah area in al-Qalyubiyah Governorate lasted about 3 hours, during which he inspected a number of production localities amid workers demonstrations, the likes of which have never been witnessed in the area before.

President Mubarak visited three production localities. They are: The Egyptian Wool Weaving and Spinning Company Mills--(Wooltex)--the Cotton and Silk Industrial Company Mills--(ESKO)--and the al-Ahliyah Plastic Company factories.

The president was accompanied on his tour by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi al-Din, Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources Eng Fu'ad Abu Zaghlal and the directors of the industrial companies which the president visited.

At the end of the visit, President Husni Mubarak gave instructions that all the workers should work hard to achieve an increase in production as well as security and prosperity for the citizens. His excellency also gave instructions for the repair, renovation and replacement of some factories so as to attain an abundance in production and make commodities available for the citizens at appropriate prices. He also requested that production be continued, that workers' problems be solved and that the necessary services such as housing, clothing and medical care be provided.

The president left Shubra al-Khaymah for Cairo around 1300 [1100 GMT] at the end of his 3-hour tour of the industrial area.

CSO: 4500/187

INCREASED PRODUCTION OF CASH CROPS URGED

Paris AL-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 19, 10 May 82 pp 3-5

[Interview with Yahia Mohieddin, deputy minister of agriculture, date and place not given]

[Text]

Egypt's consumption of wheat could be cut by about 20 per cent, more than 1 million tonnes a year, if the fixed price of bread were doubled to 2 piastres (2.8 US cents) a loaf.

This startling claim was made in an exclusive interview with *An-Nahar Arab Report & MEMO* last week by the Deputy Minister for Economics at the Ministry of Agriculture, Yahia Mohieddin. But he explained that, although the saving might reduce the country's food imports bill by \$120 million a year, political constraints made it impossible to remove bread subsidies; the government's policy was therefore to boost production and sales of cash crops to finance imports.

Excerpts from the interview follow:

Q: According to a report from the *Middle East News Agency* last month, the area under cotton declined by an average of 38,000 *feddans* (1 *feddan* = 0.45 hectares) a year during the 1970s and dropped by 78,000 *feddans* last season. To what extent is this the result of government policy, and to what extent the reaction of farmers to changes in international prices?

A: It is completely a policy decision. The marketing of cotton is entirely in the hands of the government; no private companies deal in cotton exports. During the early 1970s we were considered increasing the acreage under cotton, then about 1.6 million *feddans*, but found that farmers were not responding to incentives, so we have allowed the area to decline. But yields per *feddan* have increased.

Also, as you know, we have an export surplus of about 3 million *qantars* (1 *qantar* = 50 kilograms of lint) left over from last season. This is because the international price dropped, but the government did not want to let the price of Egyptian cotton, which is very high quality, very long staple cotton, go below a certain level.

Q: So why did you not produce even less?

A: Because it is not just the export crop which is involved. The plant yields oil and cotton seed, which is used for animal fodder; if we let production drop too low, we should end up importing seed from countries such as Sudan.

Q: What is the mechanism by which the government induces farmers to grow more or less cotton?

A: Price. But there are also fines which are levied on farmers who fail to grow what they are supposed to grow. The national quotas are fixed by the ministry, but the

responsibility for meeting targets lies with individual governorates. The particular type of cotton grown varies from one governorate to another. The fine for not growing the specified crop is EL 50 (\$70) per *feddan*.

Q: Other changes in acreage — rice down by 18,600 *feddans* a year, beans by 5,400 *feddans*, lentils from 47,000 to 15,000 *feddans* — suggest a move away from the production of food for domestic consumption, towards cash crops. Is this correct?

A: To a great extent, yes. The policy is to produce and sell high-priced crops, such as those which grow here earlier in the year than they do in Europe, in order to finance imports.

Q: But is not that illogical? Egypt's production of cereals actually increased in 1966, when the US imposed a ban on grain exports which lasted until 1973. But now production is stagnating. Should not self-sufficiency be your aim?

A: First, self-sufficiency is impossible. Our annual production of wheat today is about 1.82 million tonnes, which is equivalent to about one-third of consumption.

That yield comes from about 1.4 million *feddans*. But the total cultivable areas is only 5.8 million *feddans**; if we tripled the area under wheat in order to cover our needs, it would leave only 1.6 million *feddans* for other crops.

The second point is that it is not production which has stagnated, but acreage; yields have improved. The 1980 and 1981 figures for acreage (in million *feddans*) and yields of wheat, corn and Nile corn, that is corn which is harvested in the summer, are as follows, though you should note that the unit of yield, the *ardab*, varies. It is 150 kilogrammes for wheat, 140 kilos for corn and Nile corn:

	1980	1981
wheat		
acreage	1.326	1.399
yield	9.03	9.23
corn		
acreage	1.433	1.434
yield	13.17	13.31
Nile corn		
acreage	0.473	0.489
yield	8.90	9.26

Production as such is not a problem; our problems include marketing and waste. Production is high, but waste is high. Last year for example, the price of tomatoes fell so low that it was no longer economic to hire people to harvest the crop; so the tomatoes rotted in the ground.

The problem also applies to wheat. Farmers are growing wheat, not for the cereal, which sells at a fixed price of EL 82 (\$114.8) per tonne, but for the straw, which sells at anything from EL 80 to EL 100 per tonne.

Then the government is dumping subsidised bread all over the country, and farmers are using it to feed their animals since it is cheaper than fodder. You could argue

that the price of wheat is too low, but then it is cheaper to subsidise bread on the basis of wheat at EL 12 (\$17) per *ardab* than it is at EL 24, the price of imported wheat.

Q: But are not the subsidies simply an incentive to waste and over-consumption?

A: Yes, they are.

Q: Could you give an estimate for the savings in consumption which would occur if subsidies were removed?

A: It would, of course, for political reasons, be impossible to remove subsidies altogether. But if the price of bread were increased, it could cut consumption by 20 per cent, and this is what we have recommended to the Ministry of Economy.

*the usually quoted figure, 11 million *feddans*, includes winter and summer use of land.

Egyptian Cotton Cultivation, Production and Exports, 1977-81

	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981*
Acreage (*000 <i>feddans</i>)	1,423	1,189	1,196	1,245	1,178
Unginned cotton production**	6,978	7,547	8,177	8,941	8,417
yield per <i>feddan</i>	4.90	6.35	6.84	7.18	7.14
Ginned cotton production**	7,974	8,767	9,672	10,574	9,968
yield per <i>feddan</i>	5.60	7.38	8.09	8.50	8.46
Exports	2,878	2,659	2,932	3,281	n.a.

* revised estimates

** production figures and export totals in *000 metric *qantars*
1 *qantar* equals 157.5 kgs for unginned and 50 kgs for ginned cotton

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

The standard loaf is priced at half a piastre, but one piastre is charged for better quality bread (altering the quality is a disguised way of reducing the subsidy: Ed). People who fill their stomachs with three or four loaves now would be inclined to eat less if the price went up to one and a half or two piastres; this might also incite them to cut the bread and save what they do not eat, instead of throwing it away as at present.

Q: Which products are subject to price controls and which are free?

A: Cotton, wheat, rice and lentils have farm-gate prices fixed by the government; vegetables and fruit are subject to wholesale price control; so the price paid to the farmer is left to negotiation between him and the wholesaler. A few crops, like barley and clover, are free of all control. Clover, which can earn up to EL 300 or EL 350 per *feddan*, is the most remunerative crop for a farmer.

We feel some of those products subject to controls could usefully be left to the laws of supply and demand, such as bananas. Egypt grows very good bananas, but because the wholesale price is fixed at 32 piastres a kilo

(\$0.45), farmers are not interested in growing them and we are now importing inferior bananas at a rate of between EL 10 and EL 15 million (\$14-\$21 million) annually.

There is a high production cost involved and farmers cannot cover it.

Q: To quote *MENA* at you again, it says that the acreage for bananas increased from 12,000 *feddans* to 15,000 *feddans* between 1976 and 1980, but yields fell from 9.3 to 8.8 tonnes per *feddan*. Why is that?

A: The better bananas are grown in the Nile Delta, but the inferior fruit from Upper Egypt is harvested earlier. So when the growers in the Delta come to negotiate prices with the wholesalers, they find themselves caught in the trap of price levels fixed with the producers of inferior crops.

Q: Lastly, the Central Bank reports that agriculture contributed EL 3.26 billion to GNP of EL 19.21 billion in 1980 and EL 3.39 billion to GNP of EL 21.88 billion last year. What is the basis of those calculations?

A: They are based on local costs, not on international prices.

CSO: 4500/180

EGYPT

BRIEFS

GHALI TO VISIT AFRICAN STATES--Cairo, 4 Jun (MENA)--State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said today that he would visit a number of African countries as of the second half of this month within the framework of Egypt's constant concern with the promotion of its relations with all friendly African countries. In an exclusive interview with MENA, Dr Ghali added that in the next few days he would confer with the Foreign Ministry African affairs experts to prepare an overall report on the situation in Africa and means of boosting Afro-Egyptian relations in various fields. Dr Ghali said that a symposium would open here on Thursday comprising African experts on the Nonaligned Movement to discuss Africa's role inside the movement. The symposium would take place within the context of Egypt's interest in maintaining the movement and keeping it away from attempts at deviating it from its natural course, he added. A similar seminar is due to be held here shortly to resume last month's dialogue with the Yugoslav experts on nonalignment. Indian experts are due to take part in the seminar, Dr Ghali added. [Text] [NC041626 Cairo MENA in English 1610 GMT 4 Jun 82]

CSO: 4500/187

KHOMAYNI REGIME CALLED 'ARTIFICIAL INVENTION OF U.S.'

Paris IRAN LIBRE in French 3 May 82 pp 1-3

[Text] The West is supporting Khomeyni as it always has. This is proven by the entire history of the past few years. Making Khomeyni out to be an enemy of the West means deceiving the European and American peoples. It is not difficult for us to prove this. It was the Westerners who invented Khomeyni. In 1977, Khomeyni was practically unknown in our country. It was the Western press and Western radio and television that made him a star and gave him international stature. Never before that had anyone witnessed such an outburst of propaganda in favor of a Third-World agitator.

Neither Nasir nor Mao Tse-tung--who nevertheless were of higher caliber and had stronger popular backing--benefited from such support. Without that support, Khomeyni would have forever remained a minor unknown mullah relegated to a small town in Iraq. That is the truth. Apart from that, there is nothing but lies and deception.

West Has Kept Khomeyni in Power

The Westerners saved Khomeyni twice. They saved him in November 1979. At the time, the Islamic Republic was on the point of collapse, but by a strange coincidence, that was when the famous kidnapping of the U.S. diplomats occurred.

We will not dwell on that particularly saddening chapter in the contemporary history of the United States, which some have called "Irangate." Jimmy Carter could very easily have either prevented the taking of hostages--since he was warned of it in advance--or freed the hostages after they were taken. He did neither, preferring the humiliation and dishonor of his people to the fall of the false imam.

In October 1980, the Islamic Republic was once again in a desperate plight.

It was then, "providentially," that the war between Iraq and Iran broke out. The West's secret services had persuaded President Saddam Hussein that all he had to do was attack Iran and he would triumph without meeting any resistance. Shamefully deceived, Iraq perpetrated the aggression that we all know about, and the consequences are also known. Khomeyni was the major beneficiary of the entire operation. One does not overthrow the government when one's country is threatened with invasion.

West Protects Khomeyni Daily

If the Westerners had not been supporting the new government in Tehran from the start, they would not have allowed the assassination in the middle of Paris of Shahriar Shafik--the man in the best position, because of his integrity and popularity, to eliminate Khomeyni. But they were not content merely to allow that abominable crime. They informed the Khomeyni side about the efforts being made to get rid of it. Month after month, we have seen the arrest and execution, one after the other, of all those representing a real danger to the Islamic government. Going farther along the same lines, the Westerners helped only those opponents who, as they were well aware, did not want to do anything and would not do anything except talk. To be even more certain of their inactivity, they knowingly discredited them in the eyes of the Iranians, first by granting them enormous subsidies through Iraq and then launching Iraq against Iran. The result was that Baghdad's proteges looked like traitors to our people.

On the other hand, the Americans set powerful means into motion to block the monarchists, who, as everyone knows, have the will to fight and a possibility of winning. When restoration seemed imminent, or at any rate very probable, they tried to discredit the legitimist cause by continuing the disgraceful slander campaign against Mohammad Reza Pahlavi that they had started against him as early as 1970. They suddenly dragged out old CIA records which, by all logic, they should have made public long before.

Why Such Behavior?

Quite obviously, there is no common ground between the ideals of the West and Khomeyni's doctrine.

That brings us to a question of capital importance: why are the most powerful circles in the West behaving in this way? Why is that permanent support being given to the most obscurantist camp in the modern world? The answer is easy, and here it is:

The West wants to carve up Iran. Everything that happens proves it to us. The Khomeyni regime is an artificial invention of the Americans--an invention that is leading up to nothing other than the dismemberment of the nation. The United States was fully aware of that when it propelled Khomeyni into Tehran. And it has steadily pursued the same goal for 3 years, despite appearances. As heir to the imperialism that prevailed at the start of this century, it wants to subject Iran to the same fate which, were it not for Reza Shah, Great Britain would have imposed on it after World War I.

Now, unfortunately, it is on the point of achieving its goal.

And once Iran is balkanized, no one will any longer have to fear the appearance in Asia of a new Japan. As for the West, it will have gained all down the line. Numerous business contracts have already been signed between Western firms and the Islamic Republic. Our bet is that their number will increase in the near future.

History will judge that shameful machination. History will say whether its perpetrators will really benefit from it. For our part, we are personally convinced that the United States and its vassals will not recover from the mistake they have made. It is never with impunity that one deliberately undermines one's own moral foundations.

11798

CSO: 4619/105

U.S. SEEN TURNING TO EGYPTIAN TROOPS AFTER IRAQI FAILURE

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 22 May 82 p 1

[Text]

QUM, (IRNA) - Ayatullah Montazeri said here Thursday that the US Government had confessed its incapacity to "work a miracle" in order to save Saddam from falling as a result of a war which he had waged against the Islamic Republic.

He said that while it was despairing of the capability of the troops of the Baghdad regime, the United States was now dispatching Egyptian soldiers to the battlefronts in Iran. He added that he was confident that the Iranian troops, inspired by a craving for martyrdom and firm belief, would "pound the last blow on the aggressor regime of Saddam Hussein."

The Ayatullah, who was talking to a group of officers of the gendarmerie and the Ground Forces personnel of the Armed Forces, including the head of the political-ideological department of the Ground Force, Hujjat ul Islam Kamelan, also urged them to step up efforts for rehabilitating recaptured villages along the Iran-Iraq border and also urged them to maintain unity

between the various branches of the Armed Forces.

Ayatullah Montazeri, said that if the heads of the Arab countries knew what great power they possessed and if they utilized this great power according to the guidelines of Islam they would overcome the superpowers.

Pointing to oil as the blood of the world's economic life he added that the Arab heads unfortunately had not realized that the superpowers were dependent on them rather than they on the superpowers.

Addressing a group of martyr's families, public mobilization members and a group of members of other revolutionary foundations on the occasion of the Day of Mah'ath (the Day that Mohammad ((SAW) was appointed by God to Prophethood) Ayatullah Montazeri also talked about the Iraqi imposed war and analysed the reason of the outbreak of this war).

Referring to the crimes committed by the MKO he said that by assassinating innocent people the Munafiqeen (hypo-

crites) were fulfilling the aims of imperialism.

The head of the martyrs' foundation, Hojjatolislam Karrubi, also met and conferred with Ayatullah Montazeri yesterday morning.

Earlier in the day and in separate meetings, a group of the heads of the Ershad Islami (Islamic Guidance) Ministry, and of the Ministry of Education, the Friday prayer leaders of Aliabad and members of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards of the town met and conferred with the Ayatullah at his residence here.

Meanwhile, in a cable to the Ayatullah, the Islamic Association of Iranian Muslim Students in India Thursday declared its support for the Ayatullah's designating June 8 (Anniversary of the birthday of the 12th Imam of the Household of the Prophet) as World Oppressed Day. They also condemned the plots of imperialism, and Zionism against the Islamic Republic. The association is to hold its fourth assembly in Aligarh, India from May 25 to June 4.

IRAN REPORTED WILLING TO HAVE GOOD RELATIONS WITH OTHERS

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 22 May 82 p 2

[Text]

NEW DELHI (IRNA) -- The "Indian Express" printed in New Delhi, on Wednesday published excerpts of its recent interview with Islamic Consultative Assembly Speaker Hujjat ul-Islam Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Referring to friendly relations between Iran and India Rafsanjani stated that the policy of "neither east nor west" did not mean to cut off economic relations with either the East or the West. We only do not accept economic, political, and cultural domination of any country."

Rafsanjani added that Iran was willing to have good relations with other states.

The Indian Express quoting the Speaker on the Iraqi imposed war and its casualties

and damage said that the war had inflicted heavy damages but as Iran had repeatedly announced it was an imposed war. "We respected the 1975 Algerian accord. Saddam is falsely claiming that he is seeking peace. If he is right, he should withdraw his forces from the Iranian territory," Rafsanjani noted.

Concerning the renovation of war stricken areas, particularly in oil industries, he said that it was not difficult adding that the Abadan Oil Refinery was damaged but Iranian technicians were able to repair it in a short period of time.

If any deficiencies were observed in the case of renovation, Iran would ask for help from any country it desired.

CSO: 4600/496

RAFSANJANI SPEAKS ON WAR, PRAISES SYRIA

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 20 May 82 p 2

[Text]

TEHRAN, (IRNA)— The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly Hashemi Rafsanjani said the developments of the last two weeks in the battlefields were "great and fateful events" which were a turning point for the Islamic Republic and the region with important implications for the world's countries.

Speaking at a ceremony held to commemorate the martyrs of the victorious Beit ul-Muqaddas operations, Rafsanjani repeatedly affirmed that "we have no intention to commit aggression against any other country and if we were to go beyond our borders it would be to get our rights."

"Nowadays, we observe that imperialist agents and the reactionaries of the region are openly frightened of the Islamic Combatants' victories that the so-called (Persian) Gulf Cooperation Council could not make any decisions after holding several sessions," he said adding that the final decision was postponed for the forthcoming session in Kuwait in a fortnight.

On the various braveries of the Islamic combatants, Hujjat ul-Islam Rafsanjani said that the military circles of the world are looking at the Islamic defenders' crossing of the Karun River under fire of the Iraqi forces, breaking the siege of Abadan, captured Bostan and the occupied military bases, and their future crossing into the Golan Heights and capturing Beit ul-Muqaddas (Jerusalem) "should no doubt be a very great threat to Haifa and Tel Aviv," he said.

Talking about the effects of the victories achieved in these recent operations, the Speaker said that these operations completely changed the country's economic situation so that Iran's struggles to sell its oil before these operations were afterwards changed to having to choose among the many customers seeking to purchase Iran's oil.

Underlining the fact that all progress of the Islamic Republic was due to the self-sacrifice of the Islamic combatants, he said that the country's economic situation was so

good that it could buy any commodity it liked from anywhere in the world and was selling its goods to anyone it liked.

Referring to the righteous stand of the Syrian government regarding the conspiracy of the reactionaries of the region against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Speaker said the justified measures of the Syrian government stood as a strong obstacle against the Zionist regime and added that Syria alone in the Arab World had stopped the Zionists' aggression with knowledge of the danger of the usurper regime of Quds.

Commenting on statements by Libya and Algeria to foil the conspiracies of Arab reactionaries against the Islamic Republic and the pretext of the "danger" of Iran as greater than that of the Zionist regime for Arabs used to pit the Islamic Republic and the Arabs against each other. Hujjat ul-Islam Rafsanjani said these measures were very valu-

able. He added that Libya and Algeria have considered the conspiracy of Arab reactionaries against the Islamic Republic a great danger for the Arabs and also regarded Iran as their greatest ally in the battle against the usurper regime of Quds.

The Speaker then stressed the importance of the Beit ul-Muqaddas operations adding that several Iraqi Divisions were smashed and the Islamic defenders reached the gates of Khuninshahr by the self-sacrifice of the Islamic combatants. He stressed that presently the reactionaries of the region had realized what this power of the Islamic combatants could do in the future.

The commemoration ceremony was held at the Mutahhari Theological School this evening attended by Chief of Staff General Zahirnejad. Several military and political authorities, Islamic Revolutionary Guards, and representatives from various revolutionary institutions and various classes of people.

IRAN 'CONSIDERING' WAR AGAINST ISRAEL

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 18 May 82 p 2

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, (IRNA) -- With Iran's recent war victories and its imminent victory, the call to have a Jihad against the Zionist regime, announced by Prime Minister Musavi, seemed real, wrote the Pakistan Times, the state-owned English paper, published in Rawalpindi in Sunday's editorial.

Referring to the support of the Islamic Revolution of Iran for the PLO to liberate Qods, the paper added that conservative Arab countries would not welcome the Iranian measures to dispatch forces to

fight against the Zionists along with the Palestinians.

Meanwhile, the Urdu Jeesarat paper, published in Karachi, in Sunday's issue wrote that if Iranian attacks on Iraqi forces continued, the Iraqi regime would be exposed and Saddam's government would be toppled.

The paper, expressing sorrow over the fact that certain Arab countries were trying to portray the Iraqi imposed war as a war between "Arabs and Persians" added that the western mass media by supporting the Iraqi regime revealed their age-old enmity towards Islam.

CSO: 4600/484

IRAN

CLANDESTINE RADIO ON ARMS PURCHASE FROM ISRAEL

GF301959 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 30 May 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the recent remarks by Israeli Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon on the Tel Aviv government's selling of arms to the Islamic Republic of Khomeyni is worthy of attention for certain reasons.

First of all, the Islamic regime of Khomeyni, which deems Israel a greater enemy than the arch satan, that is, the United States, has bought about \$27 million worth of arms from Israel. A regime which calls Israel 'occupied Palestine' and which transformed the former Israeli Embassy in Tehran into the Palestinian Embassy on the very first day of its coming into power, obtains spare parts for tanks and Phantom F-4 fighters from the Tel Aviv government. A regime which has, to all appearances, severed its relations with Israel, sends its agents to London, Rome, Paris and Geneva and Zurich in order to sign agreements with international brokers for the purchase of arms from Israel.

The Israeli defense minister's (?utterances) have put an end to all the rumors which were circulating and are an admission that his [word indistinct] government has been a party to the provision of military needs for the Islamic Republic of Khomeyni's regime.

However, the Israelis endeavor to justify their actions. The Tel Aviv government says that it sells arms to Khomeyni's regime for certain reasons. One is that it is concerned with the welfare and protection of the security of the Jewry in Iran. On the other hand, when the Iran-Iraq war ends, the person who will govern Iran may be influenced by the present assistance given by Israel and may establish better relations with the Tel Aviv government. The other excuse of the Israelis for favoring Iran and dispatching arms to the criminal Khomeyni regime is that Iraq, Syria and Jordan have threatened the very existence of Israel, therefore, these three countries, especially Iraq, should be weakened.

If Ariel Sharon had maintained silence on the issue, this reality would have remained a rumor and Iranians and the people of the world would actually have believed that Israel is really an enemy of Khomeyni.

CSO: 4640/324

MUSAVI: OVERTHROW OF SADDAM CONDITION OF PEACE

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 18 May 82 p 1

[Text]

TEHRAN, (IRNA) Prime Minister Musavi said here Sunday that the reason for the defeat of the conference of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council in Kuwait was 'the imposition of realities' which he said stemmed from the victories of the Islamic combatants in the warfronts forcing the countries in the region to adopt separate decisions in keeping with their national interests. That is why, added Musavi, they had not reached a common result.

Speaking in a press conference here Musavi referred to the important role played by Arab countries friendly to Iran and said that the Steadfastness Front which was a strong opponent of Zionism and imperialism was standing alongside the Islamic Republic.

Speaking about the efforts of certain reactionary Arab countries to return Egypt to the Arab fold the prime minister said the most basic role in this connection was played by Saudi Arabia's mass media before the convening of

the conference that the danger of the Islamic Revolution was more important than the one of the Zionist regime.

Therefore, concluded the prime minister, it would be no surprise to us to see these countries acting in the interest of Egypt which was an ally of the Zionist regime.

Referring to the intervention of Jordan and Egypt in the imposed war the prime minister said that this intervention was a part of the intervention of the Superpowers in the imposed war adding that the propaganda of the world mass media clearly showed that the Superpowers also were playing a role in the war.

He said that presently in the Eastern Bloc it was said that the war was in the interest of the us and vice-versa which the prime minister said showed that the Iraqi imposed war was to the disadvantage of the world's Superpowers particularly because it was a demonstration of the righteousness of the

Islamic combatants of Iran in the international scene.

In another part of the interview the prime minister reiterated that the Islamic Republic of Iran did not intend to invade Iraqi territory or any territory.

Musavi said that Iran would never accept an imposed peace in the Iraqi imposed war and as long as Iran did not achieve its due rights the war would continue.

He said the condition for the establishment of peace in the region was Saddam's overthrow.

The prime minister continued that Iran had always announced its desire for establishing peace and security in the Persian Gulf region. He concluded that Kuwait still continued to grant aid to Iraq and its mass media still distorted war reports and as result he said it would suffer damage because of its hostility with Iran and with the great Islamic Revolution.

VOLUNTEER FORCE TO LIBERATE PALESTINE SUGGESTED

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 18 May 82 p 2

[Text]

TEHRAN, (IRNA) - An organized volunteer Army comprising forces from various Islamic countries could serve to liberate Palestine, said Islamic Consultative Assembly Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani.

The speaker, in an interview with the IRGC magazine, "Payam-e-Enqelab" suggested a volunteer force be mobilized to free Palestine, in addition to the Golan Battalion formerly suggested to be made up of Iraqi PoWs in Iran volunteering to fight for the Palestinian goals.

He said each Islamic country such as Iran could include its volunteers in that force to be mobilized in one place.

Speaking on the liberation movements, the Speaker said it was a very delicate issue since they had to be backed and at the same time, government policies had to be abided by.

He added that various liberation movements could grow following the path of Revolutionary Iran.

He said the reason the section pertaining to the liberation movements had been omitted from the IRGC charter was because the house needed a more specific bill in that connection and more time had to be spent to clarify pertinent issues so that Iran could back only sound movements.

He announced a separate section should deal with the liberation movements, instead of discussing the issue in the IRGC charter in several clauses.

When asked why Iran had relations with countries which were not completely independent, the Speaker said Iran could not find another country in the world which was totally independent. And even if they were they were not sufficient to meet Iran's needs. He said Iran always abided by the

dictum "Neither East, Nor West," and added that this did not exclude establishing relations with various countries but only ruled out entering into alignment.

Speaker Rafsanjani then said following that line, Syria, Libya and Algeria were the closest Arab countries to Iran for which Iran held the deepest respect.

When asked about Iraq's future in light of the Iranians' recent victories bringing the war almost to a close, the Speaker said the most important matter for Iraq was for it to have a popular government in the future accepted by the Iraqi nation.

He then said plans were underway to meet Iran's need for almost 2 million housing units in light of Iran's capacity of building 300,000 housing units per year with each unit measuring 100-150 metres.

MUBARAK REBUKED, THREATENED BY TEHRAN

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 72, 20 May 82 p 3

[Text] The Iranian authorities have reacted sharply to Egyptian President Mubarak's call to the Arabs to support Iraq. Ayatollah Montazeri, his underling in Qom Ayatollah Meshkini, and Friday prayer leaders in Ahvaz, Abadan and Dezful have all reminded President Mubarak that the real enemy of the Arabs is Israel, not Iran.

Speaking at Friday prayers in Qom Meshkini said Iran was doing no more than re-taking its own territory. "I do not know why Saddam is not condemned for violating international boundaries by invading Iran but Iran is condemned for driving an invader out of its own boundary," he said.

Meanwhile, Montazeri said: "Mubarak is no different from the traitor Sadat. He, too, shakes hands with the devil and he will suffer the same fate as Sadat."

Commenting on Meshkini's statement a spokesman for the Pan Iranist party in Bonn said, "For once this murderous mulla, Meshkini, has said something interesting. He wonders why another murderer, Saddam, has violated international boundaries and has not been condemned, while Iran is being condemned for pushing the invaders out of its territory. The reasons for such a policy of double standards is obvious. It is because at the time of Saddam's aggression the fools in Tehran failed to get international sympathy for Iran, because they were ignorant and did not know how to benefit from world forums such as the United Nations; and because the bloodthirsty rulers of Iran had antagonised world public opinion. No wonder nobody has sympathy for them."

Addressing himself to the Arab nations the spokesman said: "Let the fate of Saddam be a lesson to all of you. He attacked us at our worst hour, he attacked a sick Iran, whose blood was drained by the most treacherous plot designed against her in history. He invaded us when Khomeyni the murderer had annihilated our army. Yet a sick Iran finally came round to beat him. God knows what your fate will be when we finally get rid of Khomeyni. You had better make a note of it."

On Tuesday the foreign ministry in Tehran, in a statement, widened its warning to Mubarak on his fate to include other world leaders who supported Israel. It threatened strong action against them and their governments, saying they would suffer Sadat's fate, too. It singled out the government of Zaire for a special warning.

CSO: 4600/494

REPORTS OF NEW OPPRESSION IN IRANIAN CITIES

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 72, 20 May 82 pp 3-4

[Text] Latest reports from Iran speak of a new phase of murder, torture, arbitrary arrests and confiscation of property. The regime is said to have adopted unusually harsh policies towards the populace during the past two weeks. One observer has said that the situation has deteriorated so much so that Khomeyni's earlier repressive rule seems by comparison to be humanitarian.

The media continues to ignore reports of rising intimidation, executions and suppression. Tehran radio and the TV network go on reporting war communiquees and showing taped sermons and irrelevant events. The newspapers are full of interviews, speeches and activities of officials. Its task seems to be to deny the people access to news and instead feed them with views and lies.

The sudden rise in the rate of executions and other forms of official repression seems to have begun exactly at the time when the new offensive was launched towards the end of April. During the first week of May revolutionary guards in Tehran, Tabriz, Mashad and Isfahan mounted large scale operations, forcibly entering people's houses and arresting hundreds of citizens. Since the media no longer reports of these arrests, it is difficult to ascertain why they are carried out and what category of citizens are arrested, except alleged members of Mojahedin and other leftist groups who do not toe the Moscow line. However, some information is now coming out that members of religious minority sects and former officials of the Shah have been held.

One reliable report indicated that several Christians were arrested in the West Azarbaijan city of Rezaieh (Urumia) on charges of making alcoholic drinks. Following this incident an unknown group attacked the house of Khomeyni's representative, Mulla Imani, but he escaped unharmed. He then let his thugs loose on the city Muslim and Christian population.

In Kermanshah (renamed Bakhtaran) Khomeyni's representative Ashrafi Esfehiani last week called on the city's Sunni elders to announce officially that Khomeyni was the one and only paramount religious leader. This notoriously wealthy and corrupt mulla has threatened the Sunni leaders that failure to do so will prompt authorities to arrest Sunnis as Iraqi spies and kill them.

In Shiraz many Bahais were reported to have been killed by thugs. In Kerman followers of Shaikh Ahmad Ehsai, known as Shaikhi Shias, are being systematically eliminated. In Mashad, Islamic Republican party thugs have attacked homes of respected citizens and arrested them on charges of being "heretics." Those arrested are kept in isolation. Relatives do not dare to enquire about the health of the arrested people.

But the most disturbing aspect of this latest campaign of terror by the Khomeyni regime is the total lack of security in the streets, especially in the shopping areas. Reports indicate that suddenly gangs of government-financed hezbollahis arrive at a given point, stare into the eyes of terrified onlookers standing in the food queues and then at random pick several individuals for questioning.

Informed sources believe that this new technique in mass terror and intimidation has been adopted in an effort to frighten the people into total submission in preparation for some kind of new development. It is suspected that the mullas have planned a new policy or course of action similar to the one concerning the attack on Ayatollah Sharia'tmadari, and have created a new reign of terror to stamp out any possible resistance.

"Possibly their campaign against Sharia'tmadari has misfired and the mullas are taking revenge," one observer said. "Or else they have a new shock in store for the people. It is by now a well-known Khomeyni tactic to mount a new terror campaign whenever he wants to force people to swallow something unpalatable; this was the way he forced his Islamic republic and constitution referenda on the people."

The new toughness may also be due to mounting opposition by the ordinary clerics to the regime's new measures. Thousands of ordinary preachers, often in their 40s or 50s, who used to make a living by making house calls on specific days or occasions, are now said to be badly hit by public animosity towards mullas in general and also by fast declining income levels. And these are generally independent preachers who do not belong to the tightly knit mullas grouping of the Khomeyni camp or indeed may not be graduates of the Qom madrassahs. These small-time preachers have not been allowed to share in the booty of the revolution and so they are opposed to Khomeyni.

In addition to these, a number of senior theologians who regard Khomeyni as a heretic have been attacking the regime; but they have no access to the media or mosques to make their opposition really biting, though their letters are distributed widely.

The extent of intimidation is such that IRP thugs openly tell the people that their phones are tapped and that anybody caught criticising the regime over the telephone would be identified, arrested and shot. IRP activists have in fact gone on the offensive in the never ending rumour-mongering by spreading rumours of their own that all telephones are bugged and that children have been brain-washed to report conversations and any guests at their homes and so forth.

Finally, some observers believe that the regime has run out of steam, that its manipulation of people's feelings of hate and jealousy no longer has the

desired effect. The 'Imam' has lost his magical hold on the society's dropouts and the propaganda over the war and martyrdom no longer affect the people. So in order not to lose their hold on power the mullas are forced to mount yet a new reign of terror to lengthen their rule until they cook up a new crisis to keep the people busy, they say.

CSO: 4600/494

STILL NO HARD FACTS ON RELEASE OF POLITICAL DETAINEES

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 72, 20 May 82 pp 5-6

[Text] What happened to Khomeyni's latest amnesty? It was on 12 February when Khomeyni offered the amnesty, giving his judges two months to release sizable numbers of detainees.

Since then conflicting reports have been given by the mullas as to how many detainees have been set free. Head of the Supreme Court Musavi Ardebili said some 6,000 ordinary and 3,000 political detainees were to be set free. Other judges talked of 10,000 or more. Three months later when the reporters asked authorities about the matter, a mulla at Evin prison said that life in prison was so good that the detainees were reluctant to leave it.

Meanwhile, it is known that the number of prisoners detained by Islamic courts exceeds the 50,000 mark. Reliable reports have it that several thousand detainees are on forced labor in Kerman and nearby areas. Others are forced to go to the war zone to work for "Islam" and purify their souls.

Since Khomeyni rejects visits from organisations like Amnesty International because they are "enemies of Islam," precious little information is getting through to such pressure groups abroad.

Human rights groups organised by Iranians abroad are also unable to do much work. Only the Mojahedin have ardent allies among leftist groups abroad to give publicity to their cause but they seem to be intent on making political capital for their own partisan cause out of their campaign rather than helping the cause of Iranians' human rights pure and simple.

Information reaching IPS has it that the number of political detainees today is higher even than on February 12, when the latest amnesty was declared. A feature of Islamic courts is that authorities promptly put anybody in prison once anyone brings charges against them. Then the victim will have to wait for a long period, probably never be brought to trial. There is also reliable evidence that some political prisoners released before Now Ruz have been rearrested and taken back to jail.

CSO: 4600/494

QOTBZADEH'S FRIENDS ASK FOR HIS RELEASE

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 72, 20 May 82 p 5

[Text] Friends of the former foreign minister Sadegh Qotbzadeh are working behind the scenes to secure his release from detention, reports from Tehran indicate. They have already told the Islamic authorities that Qotbzadeh has repented and, because as a good Muslim he rejected a suggestion to assassinate the "Imam," he was entitled to Khomeyni's personal pardon.

According to exile sources, Qotbzadeh, who was said to be involved in big business on behalf of the mullas, has amassed a fortune abroad and he was ready to pay good money for his freedom. Some say that Qotbzadeh's arrest was a "show" to implicate Ayatollah Sharia'tmadari and that Qotbzadeh would in due course be freed, along with receiving a useful reward.

Yet his friends insist that he has been genuinely arrested and that he has enemies among the IRP who are after his blood. They add that the Tudeh party, too, is hard at work to eliminate Qotbzadeh because of his open animosity to Moscow.

Qotbzadeh was a "professional" student abroad, at one time in the United States and later in France. He lived in good style, running expensive cars and traveling widely. There are reports that he worked for Syrian, Libyan and possibly Russian security, but some say that he betrayed them all. He never finished his studies.

He was a trusted aide of Khomeyni and was made the head of Iran's state-controlled radio and television when Khomeyni took over. He turned the media into Khomeyni's docile mouthpiece. However, his exploitation of his personal connections with Khomeyni annoyed most other officials, including Premier Bazargan, Beheshti and Khamene'i. His conceit and arrogance spread dislike of him, especially as he was ruthless in throwing trained people out of radio and television and later out of the foreign ministry.

He also lost face when his fantastic lies about his telephone conversations with world leaders were exposed. To get into the headlines he also claimed to have uncovered a plot to assassinate former UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

CSO: 4600/494

PLOT AGAINST SHARIA'TMADARI MAY HAVE MISFIRED

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 71, 13 May 82 pp 2-4

[Text] The mullahs of the Khomeyni camp are remaining silent on an earlier plan to hold an assembly of experts to arrange for ways and means to provide for succession to Khomeyni. This sudden silence is as intriguing as their sudden onslaught against Ayatollah Sharia-tmadari was.

The question of Khomeyni's successor was raised many months ago when President Khamene'i told a NEWSWEEK reporter that an assembly of experts should be already working on the matter. This coincided with rumours of Khomeyni's death, which proved untrue, though it is now known that he was seriously ill at the time.

Then in February the official spokesman Ahmad Tavakoli told reporters that the question of the succession to the "Imam" was on everybody's mind, and that, although they all prayed to God the Imam would not die so soon, they nevertheless had thought of holding the so-called assembly of experts some time in May.

Nothing was said on the subject again until the apparent plot against Ayatollah Sharia'tmadari, the senior theologian, last month. It was obvious that the plot had some connection with the question of Khomeyni's successor. It was common knowledge that Khomeyni hoped to have his favourite disciple Hassan Ali Montazeri installed as his successor before he dies. Since Montazeri is technically a low-ranking mullah and senior theologians might stand in his way it seemed the conspiracy against Sharia'tmadari was intended to remove the most senior theologian and also to frighten off other contenders or opponents.

Just when the plot against Sharia'tmadari seemed to be effective and the whole mullah controlled-media were joining in his disgrace the Tehran newspaper ETELLAT unexpectedly came up with an interview with Khomeyni's son in which he said in his opinion the only "faghih" competent and qualified to succeed his father was Montazeri.

This interview was not broadcast by Tehran radio and there was no follow-up to it. Indeed, the whole matter was suddenly dropped, and nothing has since been said about the assembly of experts which should be held in May. This is curious because if the assembly is to be held this month there must be countrywide preparations to select and bring to Tehran the so-called Mujtahids who must sit down to deliberate on who should replace Khomeyni in accordance with the Islamic constitution.

It seems the mullahs are not yet fully convinced that they have "eliminated" Sharia'tmadari as their most important adversary among the top theologians and so they feel any assembly of experts composed of handpicked loyal mullahs would lack the authenticity required to install Montazeri as successor to Khomeyni.

There are indications that theologians who oppose Khomeyni's brand of Islam and Islamic government have not been frightened by the regime's plot against Ayatollah Sharia'tmadari. Several prominent ayatollahs, including Hassan Qomi, have already denounced the plot and declared that no authority is competent to declare any top theologian as disqualified. The line of argument the critical clerics have adopted is that since no senior ayatollah (marja taghlid) is superior to another marja taghlid nobody, including Khomeyni himself, is vested with the authority to disqualify Sharia'tmadari, who himself is a marja taghlid. They have also said that bringing political charges against him would not hold, because on Khomeyni's own assertion religion is not separate from politics. So if as a marja taghlid one ayatollah holds political views different from that of Khomeyni he is as much entitled to his views as Khomeyni is to his own. By this yardstick people should be left free to choose their political ways as pronounced by the marja taghlid of their own choice; unless of course one is to assert that religion and politics cannot be mixed--a view which Khomeyni disputes.

Because of such pronouncements by the top theologians the regime has now found out that the estrangement of Ayatollah Sharia'tmadari is not so easy as they expected, and that the terrorising of the people into submission will not be a sound way of forcing Montazeri into office.

Meanwhile, reports indicate that other top ayatollahs who were originally reported by the mullah-controlled media to have sanctioned Sharia'tmadari's so-called defrocking have now denied those reports. Close aids of Ayatollahs Marashi-Najafi and Golpayegani have said that these two top theologians, also regarded as marja taghlid, had never signed a statement denouncing Ayatollah Sharia'tmadari and that Tehran Radio and other media had fabricated the statement. They have also said that the temporary closing down of the Qom Theological school by the two ayatollahs was, in fact, in protest at the disgraceful attacks on Sharia'tmadari and not, as reported by the Tehran media, in support of the regime.

Following this disclosure reports circulated privately in Tehran that Khomeyni and Montazeri had told their mullahs to stop their verbal attacks on Shariat-Madari. These reports had originated from Khomeyni's own office and although they did not find their way to the media they did reach everybody's attention by word of mouth.

It was in these circumstances that the interview of Ahmad Khomeyni with ETELAAT was allowed to pass with no follow-up, and the whole matter of succession was left in limbo. So once again, Tehran observers say, the mullahcracy's attempts to declare Montazeri as the crown prince of Khomeyni has misfired.

There is no question, however, that Khomeyni and mullahs of his camp are bent on making Montazeri the next "supreme leader" of Iran. But somehow this one-time insignificant preacher from the villages of Najafabad, near Isfahan, does

not seem cut out to replace Khomeyni as the leader of a tyrannical theocracy founded on blood and deceit. The latest move to elevate him to the rank of grand ayatollah has so backfired that the Tehran Radio which in late April began suddenly to call him as Ayatollah Ozma Montazeri has now gone back to calling him merely Ayatollah, dropping the designation of Ozma, which is reserved for Khomeyni, Sharia'tmadari, Khoyi, Golpayegani, Morash-Najafi and Qomi.

Close analysts of the events in Tehran maintain that the Khomeyni regime feels more insecure now than ever before. "It is the sign of their insecurity that the mullahs of the Khomeyni camp are confused this time in their propaganda efforts and are shifting from one position to another and changing the topics of their propaganda so rapidly and so arbitrarily," one analyst said.

CSO: 4600/493

ISRAEL, KHOMEYNI 'LINKS' STILL CAUSE CONJECTURE AMONG IRANIANS

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 72, 20 May 82 pp 6-7

[Text] A group of former Tehran University professors is working on a study to establish what they define as the "true nature" and extent of relations between the Khomeyni regime and Israel.

"Even a casual observer can see that the Khomeyni regime has done a great deal to serve the interests of Israel," a member of the group told IPS. "But what we are trying to discover is to see whether the Israelis have any hidden but close control over Khomeyni, manipulating his policies towards their interests, or if it is by sheer accident that Khomeyni serves the Israeli purposes."

He categorised Khomeyni's value to Israel as follows:

1. The most obvious is the way Khomeyni picked on Iraq and after a series of skirmishes brought about the current war, which has bled the second best army in the Arab world while it has cost Arab coffers billions of dollars and created discord and turmoil in inter-Arab relations. Indeed, the Irano-Iraqi war, in which the Syrians are also implicated, can be termed as the greatest Israeli gain since the 1967 war. All this is thanks to the Khomeyni regime.
2. Khomeyni has pitched Islam against nationalism. In the Arab world, and for that matter in Iran, nationalism is a vehicle for unity, progressive ideas and secularism, while revival of the forgotten fanaticism of Islamic theocracy has the most divisive influence, not only among adherents of Islamic sects but also among Muslims and non-Muslims in the region. The revival of fundamentalism in Islam would also be bound to isolate the Islamic world, Israel's adversary, from the rest. And finally, by playing on the feelings of fanatical segments of Islamic society and by awakening hidden and latent secretarian and class resentments Khomeyni has brought social dropouts and rejects into the arena, driving the elite away. This way he has prevented the Iranian society from benefiting from the fruits of its best talent and a similar calamity awaits Arab nations who are Israel's adversaries--or so they fear.
3. The revival of Islamic fanaticism has already led to divisions within the Palestinian ranks and weakened the position of the PLO. Emergence of a strong Palestinian leadership is more difficult today than ever thanks to Khomeyni, while in Lebanon Shias kill Palestinians and vice versa, which must make Israelis happy.

4. Khomeyni has effectively knocked out of the Middle East scene one of the region's strongest countries. Under the Shah, latterly, Iran had sorted out its differences with Iraq, had assured Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other littoral states of its constructive regional role, was a good friend both of Egypt and Syria and was emerging as a bastion of stability attracting world attention and acting as a counterweight to Israel. Today Iran has become an outlaw and destabilising force in the region, much to the delight of the Israelis, it is claimed.

5. Khomeyni's rule has accentuated Shia-Sunni and Arab-Persian differences. Both Iranians and Arabs had virtually buried the hatchet for over a century, but now Khomeyni has again brought animosity to the fore. Meanwhile, hatred for the Palestinians, whose early connection with revolution was resented, for the Syrians who now are seen by many Iranians as too deeply involved in Iranian affairs, and for Iraqis who invaded their land, is starting to drive many ordinary Iranians to look upon Israelis as possible allies.

These, says a member of the group, are very obvious gains for Israel, which "could well be coincidence but gives cause for thought."

"There is other evidence, though circumstantial, which prompts us to think Khomeyni and his gang might have Israeli connections," he said, making more points:

a) Behesti and his gang copied the same tactics as those employed by Naganah to create a parallel administration to push an existing authority out of power. Haganah did it to get rid of the mandate authorities, Beheshti did it to push the constitutional and then the provisional government out. Did Khomeyni and Beheshti have Israeli advisers?

b) American Jewish activists and their allies were visibly advocating an anti-Shah line after the mid-70s. Sections of the U.S. media under Jewish influence were playing up reports of SAVAK activities, the Shah's failures and so on.

c) On the eve of the revolution and for several months later El Al flew plane-loads of eggs, poultry and other provisions for distribution and sale by the so-called Islamic cooperatives organised by mosques, according to many people in Tehran. There are eye witnesses who claim to have seen the El Al planes parked at Mehrabad.

d) Former president Bani-Sadr, who was a close confidant of Khomeyni and his choice for the presidency, is known to have traveled to Israel for a stay in 1969. When Bani-Sadr fell out with Khomeyni the mullas never referred to his stay in Israel, possibly because of the fact that he was carrying out instructions from his so-called Islamic bosses.

"All these provide possible grounds for implicating Israel in the plot to bring Khomeyni to power," he told IPS. "But we are digging for more evidence. The sale of Israeli arms to Khomeyni is now a proven fact. What is not so well-known is the part Israeli-connected air force cadres played in the breakup of the army in February 1979 and then the presence of some Arabic speaking staff

officers in a secret command room at the air force headquarters in the spring and summer of 1979 and 1980. These Arabic-speaking officers were in fact instructing Khamene'i, then undersecretary of defence, on how to restructure the army.

"At the time it was presumed that the foreign officers who were frustrating efforts to reorganise the army were Syrian or Palestinian but now we believe they might well have been Arabic-speaking Israeli officers; because they were clever enough and trained in the use of American weapons to know about the Iranian army and the Syrians are not."

He stressed that the group studying Israel's role in the Islamic revolution was not against the Jewish state. "But we think those Israelis who see the interests of their country in creating chaos in the region are mistaken," he said.

"Israel needs to come to terms with the Arabs," he said. "So there must be a dialogue between the two. Sadat's visit to Israel proves that Arabs are at their most generous when they are strong and confident. Israel stands to gain from stability, so rather than working for destabilisation of the region she should contribute to its stability."

He said the Khomeyni regime was doomed to failure. His policy was running against the march of time. It would be to everybody's interest to help moderates take Khomeyni's place because the alternative would certainly be catastrophic to the Iranians, Arabs, Israelis and the West at the same time.

CSO: 4600/494

REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS CHIEF CONCEIVED PLAN

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 71, 13 May 82 pp 4-5

[Text] It is now clear that the commander of the revolutionary guards, Mohsen Rezai, and two mullahs--Mohammad Meshkini and Heshmatollah Safai--drew up a scheme to implicate Ayatollah Shari'a'tmadari and several other people in a fabricated coup plot soon after the Nowruz holidays. The campaign to discredit Ayatollah Shari'a'tmadari was timed to coincide with the assembly of experts to meet to deliberate on the matter of succession to Khomeyni.

Rezai had already said that the ayatollah was "in our hands and we can move against him any time we like provided we do some prior planning." By planning he apparently meant that those pasdards who were previously sympathetic to Shari'a'tmadari had to be transferred from Qom, Mashad and Tehran to the war front and replaced by fully-loyal elements. This was done during the March 21 offensive against Iraq. Then well-trained gangs of gunslingers were posted to committees in several Tehran districts, including Javadieh in south Tehran.

However, the main part of the operation was a move to prepare Tabriz, the centre of East Azarbaijan, for the shock news. So, in the second week of April, several new contingents of revolutionary guards, handpicked from among the force's most loyal elements were sent to Tabriz. Most of these new guards were from the city of Ardebil and nearby districts, which are more or less loyal to Khomeyni's men. They are more or less mercenaries with little real Islamic conviction as such.

Even then the regime was not quite sure that a revolt in Tabriz could be easily contained. So groups of well-trained foreign mercenaries were also sent to Tabriz to reinforce the newly-sent revolutionary guards. Reports indicate that most of these were recruited from among Sunnis, possibly Afghan refugees and some Arabs who were paid good sums of money to fire on the people in case there was a strong reaction against the attack on Shari'a'tmadari.

Following these preparations, the Islamic Republican Party bosses met to draw up a plan for a psychological war against Shari'a'tmadari. It was agreed to send Fakhredin Hejazi, a deputy from Mashad with a record of success in previous propaganda offensives, to Qom to speak at Friday prayers and initiate the battle of words against the old and respected ayatollah. But then it was decided that such an attack would not be sufficient and that the ayatollah should also be framed in a plot. Thus the operation against Ayatollah

Sharia'tmadari was mounted, with, according to Tehran sources, foreign minister Sadegh Qobtzadeh acting as an accomplice.

According to the sources, the ayatollah's two sons-in-law were tortured into making confessions, appearing on TV and implicating their father-in-law. Even then what they said was useful only as circumstantial evidence. The same sources believe that the Ayatollah Sharia'tmadari episode is far from finished and that the mullahs are bound to come up with other "shows," since the assembly of experts has not yet been held to discuss ways and means of providing for Khomeyni's succession.

CSO: 4600/493

MULLAHS BELIEVED STILL WARY OF MILITARY

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 71, 13 May 82 p 5

[Text] Informed sources inside Iran reported last week that the mullas were now visibly worried over the steadily increasing popularity of the army among the people, and that there are fears they are carefully planning to "eliminate" any officer or military figure who might emerge as a hero.

The mullas refrain from mentioning the names of any military commanders in the battlefield who might have performed his duties well. In the war propaganda of the mullas there is never any mention of an individual as doing something heroic, unless of course, some mulla or a cleric's relative does something worthwhile. This constant refusal to give credit to army officers for bravery is seen as part of the mullas' attempt to prevent the emergence of heroes.

The war propaganda machine, which is tightly controlled by the mullas, puts the accent on victory and bravery in the war but singles out only the irregular forces. Even when the professional soldiers are exclusively involved in a major victory the media refers to them generally as "soldiers of Islam."

Some exile groups with good connections in Iran say that the recent incident at Lavizan barracks in which several officers died was mounted by the mullas to kill good officers and put the blame on what they call "counterrevolutionaries." The Lavizan attack is now widely believed to have been an inside job, but the Mojahedin took the bait and claimed credit for it.

The mullas are well aware of the popularity of Ayatollah Shari'atmadari among the officer corps, who are mainly from Azarbaijan. So before they launched their latest offensive in Khuzestan they engineered a plot to eliminate some senior Azarbaijani officers at Lavizan, so the reports claim.

It was always assumed that a modern army, the legacy of Iran's secularist regime, was anathema to a theocratic regime, especially when that regime is known to have ruthlessly executed numerous patriotic officers and other ranks. But somehow, the war with Iraq provided a common cause for everybody and there was a kind of working relationship between the army and the mullas. But exile groups began to speculate that a victorious and reconstructed army might, after finishing the job with the Iraqis, turn its guns against the old enemy (Khomeyni) and stage a military takeover. The mullas have heard these speculations and are mindful of the potential danger that the army poses to them. So they are not allowing the army to consolidate its ranks or to gain popularity, Tehran sources claim.

TUDEH TRIES TO EMERGE AS WORKING CLASS CHAMPION

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 71, 13 May 82 pp 5-6

[Text] The Tudeh party has publicly called on Iran's theocratic government to implement those articles in the Islamic constitution which provide for the workers to organise trade unions and have a say in the management of industrial institutions. Analysts believe that the Moscow-backed Tudeh is now trying to emerge as the champion of the working classes in the mulla-dominated regime.

Earlier Minister of Labour Ahmad Tavakoli had said that according to Islamic rules the workers in any factory simply traded their labour and expertise in exchange for the wages they received and as such they had no responsibility in management affairs. He went as far as implying that the Islamic associations, too, had their own specific functions which did not include management decisions.

Tavakoli's statement came after widespread unrest in the industrial institutions during which workers had protested about low wages and indifference by management to their grievances. It was said that Islamic associations, infiltrated by Tudeh members, were known to have encouraged labour unrest.

Then, following Tavakoli's statement, a Tudeh party pamphlet reminded the minister of "specific articles in the Islamic constitution" which provided for workers to set up their syndicates to protect their "class rights." The pamphlet stressed that the progressive elements, presumably belonging to Tudeh, had a great part to play in making sure that the constitution protected workers' rights.

Previously the National Voice of Iran, a radio station broadcasting in Persian to Iran from the Soviet Union, had said that inefficient officials in the administration, encouraged by counterrevolutionary and imperialist elements were creating discontent among the people, especially the workers. The broadcast said that at the ministry of labour the legacy of liberalism from the days of the Bazargan administration still prevailed. It then went on to claim that the workers were the main force which safeguarded the gains of the revolution and as such they deserved full attention by the government to their legitimate demands.

"One example of disregard for the wrong interpretation of our Islamic constitution by some officials, especially in the ministry of labour, is in respect to implementation of articles 26 and 105 of the constitution, which provide for

workers' rights to set up unions and councils," the radio said. Usually the Tudeh party echoes what this radio station based in Russia broadcasts.

Observers believe that the Tudeh is now pleased that the Khomeyni regime has gone along with many radical decisions originally advocated by the Tudeh publications, such as the land bill, foreign trade nationalisation and opening of state-controlled stores. The attack on Ayatollah Shari'atmadari was also a long term objective of the Tudeh, whose leaders had always regarded the respected theologian as the bastion of the conservative Islamic resistance to communism.

Having achieved these gains the Tudeh party is now at work to create a distinct image--that of the pragmatic, political organisation which is active in upholding progressive principles in an otherwise reactionary revolutionary administration.

The Tudeh has come under fierce attack by the centrist forces for its close association with the mullahs of the Khomeyni camp. Indeed, many of the regime's excesses, such as indiscriminate purges of the civil servants, outright confiscation of private houses and property, and socialisation of economic activities, are blamed on the influence of Tudeh elements. The Tudeh, for its part, knows that it is already black-listed by the centrists so it has nothing to lose in emerging as the champion of the working classes.

However, the Tudeh's main drawback is its very close association with Moscow. It is regarded as a subservient lackey of the Russians, whose only mission is to carry out the orders of its Soviet bosses and further Russian interests. And since Iranians regard Russia as their historic enemy they dislike the Tudeh for being a Russian stooge. Khomeyni, at the same time, is trying hard to paint the United States as the only enemy of Iran, thus helping the Tudeh campaign.

CSO: 4600/493

BAZARGAN ASSAILED BY NATIONALISTS

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 71, 13 May 82 pp 6-7

[Text] Nationalist groups inside Iran have launched a fierce attack on Mehdi Bazargan and his political allies, branding them as "mullas without turbans" who must not be allowed to escape punishment for their part in bringing Khomeyni to power.

One nationalist group believed to comprise former army officers has distributed leaflets denouncing "hidden hands" now allegedly at work to promote Bazargan and his colleagues as the most viable alternative to the mullas to occupy the seat of power in Iran.

"Bazargan was directly involved in the treacherous plot, hatched in September 1978, which destabilised the Shah's regime, frustrated attempts to contain the Khomeyni revolt and finally engineered the overthrow of the Bakhtiar government and installed Khomeyni as Iran's supreme ruler," the group said.

The group said Bazargan might well be more qualified than Khomeyni "but this is not saying much." They added that the alternative to Khomeyni must be a strong and forward-looking group of administrators, while "Bazargan and his men are a weak and narrow-minded bunch."

Remnants of the now-defunct National Front have also condemned Bazargan as the "wicked old man who served as the sweetener which sugar-coated Khomeyni for unsuspecting Iranians." They stressed that in any new order in Iran Bazargan and members of his cabinet should be barred from participation.

Exile sources abroad have not been able to say why Bazargan has so suddenly come under attack by nationalists. They said they had no reports that Bazargan might be chosen to form a new government in Iran as an alternative to the present mullas. The Iranian National Resistance Movement of Shahpour Bakhtiar has repeatedly made it clear that former associates of Bazargan should not claim leadership positions in a national salvation government, but they should be welcomed as ordinary individuals joining in the nationwide struggle against Khomeyni and his mullas.

CSO: 4600/493

KHOMAYNI'S TIES TO COMMUNISM EXAMINED

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 71, 13 May 82 pp 7-8

[Text] Many educated and even sophisticated Iranians maintain that Khomeyni's unexpected and unbelievable accession to power was the outcome of an American plot to replace the progressive and westernised Shah with a backward Islamic theocrat in an attempt to create a chain of fanatically religious governments around the atheist Russia. They say that Pakistan, Turkey and Afghanistan were also slated to have Islamic regimes.

To the western mind that kind of argument seems highly incredible. Yet the fact is that some American technocrats have in the past advocated a policy of helping fanatical reactionary theocrats to come to power in the Muslim countries to provide a religious barrier against communism.

At the outset such a policy makes sense because Islam is at variance with communism or so it seems. Marx has already said that religion is the opium of the masses. In Europe the church has always been regarded as a bastion of conservatism opposed to atheist communism.

However, the experience of Iran's Islamic revolution proves otherwise. Khomeyni's virulent anti-Americanism, if anything, exceeds any communist regime's opposition to America in its intensity and scope. Even the most violent leftists admit that the way Khomeyni has harmed "imperialist" interests in the region excels in scope and content anything which the leftist groups may have had in their bag.

Moreover, under the guise of Islam, Khomeyni and his group have implemented in Iran a series of radical measures which no communist regime could have done so easily. One major example is the way Khomeyni has dealt with genuine religious leaders, such as Ayatollah Shari'atmadari, whose opposition to communism is well known. Communists would have encountered stiff resistance had they been in power and tried to disgrace Shari'atmadari. But Khomeyni did it under the guise of Islam.

In other words, in the name of Islam, Khomeyni has managed to neutralise the most effective barrier against communism. Some Iranians say that Khomeyni used Islam as a Trojan horse to smuggle communism into Iran. No wonder the Tudeh party is so faithfully behind his regime.

Happily Khomeyni and his regime have so antagonised the Iranian people that if he goes the communists will go with him. But if he stays longer he will pave the way for a communist takeover not only in Iran but in the whole region.

The simple-minded youth in other Islamic countries who have not lived under Khomeyni's bloodthirsty rule are inclined to accept his propaganda at face value. Herein lies his danger to the region. He is turning Islam into a vehicle for the spread of leftist ideas which serve the Soviet policy objectives. As such Khomeyni's regime is more dangerous than, say, the Syrian or South Yemen regimes. The same is true of such other groups as Mojahedin-e-Khalq who disguise communism in an Islamic cover.

That is why Iranians opposed to Khomeyni are right in expecting the liberal and genuinely democratic forces in the West to help them to topple Khomeyni and his present and former allies.

At some point in the late 1960s some marxists conceived of the novel idea of subverting Islam rather than opposing it. The idea caught on and warnings by the late Shah that there was an alliance of Reds and Blacks were ignored by all and sundry.

Now we have proof of the validity of the Shah's warnings in Khomeyni as well as in such groups as Mojahedin. Time is now ripe for all anti-Marxist groups to see the light and help enlightened Iranians to contain this threat. This is not a fight for Iranians alone; the other side avails itself of the assistance of international terrorism and Marxism. If the democratic forces in the West remain indifferent they will eventually find that they, too, cannot escape the danger.

CSO: 4600/493

QASHQAIS, GUARDS IN NEW BATTLE

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 71, 13 May 82 pp 8-9

[Text] There has been renewed fighting between revolutionary guards and armed Qashqai tribesmen in south Iran. Exile groups reported that the fighting was fierce and that the guards had used mortars and rockets against the tribesmen.

The media in Tehran has not elaborated on this latest round of fighting between the guards and Qashqais. Exile groups, too, have been unable to furnish details for the fighting nor have they had any reports of why there has been trouble in the region.

It is known that leaders of the Qashqai tribe were against the Khomeyni regime from the very beginning of the revolution, though some of them were hoping the overthrow of the Shah might enable them to regain part of their former tribal rights and freedom of action. During the reign of the Pahlavis the government took steps to settle tribesmen in agricultural lands and to provide them with education and health. But this led to a systematic diminishing of the powers of the tribal chiefs, who resisted the government move.

Soon after the revolution the Qashqai tribal leaders, who had been forced to live abroad, returned home hoping to reinstate themselves. But they soon fell out with Khomeyni when they realised that the policy of Khomeyni's Islamic government was worse than the secular government's policy on tribal affairs. Since they had been able to arm themselves during the chaotic days of the revolution they began to oppose Khomeyni's forces by force of arms.

Exile groups, especially National Front elements, claim that the Qashqai leaders are working closely with nationalists to destabilise Khomeyni and his regime. In a communique issued in Germany the National Front has called on the revolutionary guards to see the light of truth and not to fire on their tribal brothers.

CSO: 4600/493

EXILES WARN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS ABOUT KHOMEYNI TERRORISTS

London IRAN PRESS SERVICE in English No 71, 13 May 82 p 9

[Text] Exile groups in Germany and France have called on the governments of their respective host countries to take rigid measures against the campaign of terrorism and intimidation which the Khomeyni regime has recently mounted against Iranians living abroad.

Referring to recent troubles at Mainz University in West Germany these groups have drawn attention of these governments to the fact that accredited diplomats of the Tehran regime were engaged in organising terrorist gangs, attacking bona fide students and intimidating other Iranians who are resident in Europe.

National Front spokesmen in Europe said last week that in addition to such terrorist acts the diplomats of the Khomeyni regime systematically harass Iranian residents abroad, refuse to renew their passports and force them to go home, where on arrival they face arbitrary arrest and possible death.

They have also said that any Iranian woman who arrives at Mehrabad airport wearing an ordinary dress without headgear is subjected to all kinds of verbal abuse and even molesting by the revolutionary guards and girl vigilantes of the Islamic Republican party. Men who arrive at Mehrabad airport clean-shaven and well-dressed are also harassed by the guards and customs officials who are newly recruited staff, frequently relatives of mullas or widows of revolutionary guards killed during street fights or in other operations.

According to the German authorities, a report in the Mojahedin-e-Khalq's weekly journal says, some of the assailants who attacked Iranian students in Mainz on Apr 24 had entered West Germany only three days before the incident. They had posed as students or sick people. About 150 of them, armed with tear gas, carbonic anhydride capsules, axes, knives, chains and sticks raided the student hostel. A German girl innocently caught up in the attack later died of shock, the newspaper claimed.

Doors of rooms of Iranian students were smashed in at the hotel by the attackers, who beat up and injured 15 Mojahedin supporters and destroyed property in the Iranian students' rooms. Nine had their passports stolen, along with money, by the raiders, 68 of whom were arrested after clashes with the police. There had been considerable outcry in Germany following the incident.

CSO: 4600/493

IRAN

OFFICIALS' REMARKS AT HAVANA NONALIGNED MEETING

LD011154 Tehran IRNA in English 1022 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Havana, 1 Jun (IRNA)--The pre-agenda session of the foreign ministers of the non-aligned movement started its work here this morning (local time). Since the session is being held in Havana the president of the meeting was elected from Cuba while the head of political and economic committees were chosen from Zambia and India respectively.

Meanwhile the political committee of the coordination bureau of the non-aligned foreign ministers met on Monday afternoon to discuss the final joint communique of the conference prepared by Cuba.

Speaking at the meeting, Iran's permanent representative at the U.N. Raja'i Khorasani, objected to one of the paragraphs of the joint communique. Quoting the Palestinian envoy, that an aggressor should not be rewarded, Raja'i Khorasani announced that Baghdad was not an appropriate venue for the forthcoming non-aligned conference from a security point of view. He said that he was assured that many other members would not attend the Baghdad conference stressing that for the preservation of unity, the conference should be held in another place.

The Iranian representative in an official note urged the president of the session to allow the subject to be discussed. It is expected that the discussions be held on a number of articles of the joint (?communique) since some of the countries which had relatively supported Iraq in its imposed war against Iran had announced their support for Iran in their private talks with the Iranian representative.

On Monday night 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian foreign minister, met and conferred with his Syrian counterpart 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The two sides discussed Iran's rightful stances as well as issues of the coordination bureau.

Velayati also met and held talks with his Cuban counterpart Isidora Malmierca on matters of mutual interest especially the Iraq imposed war on Iran.

The Iranian foreign minister said that Iran stressed on the formation of a summit non-aligned conference but was against the Baghdad venue since Iraq had bombed Iranian cities and villages, made homeless about two million Iranians and above all ignored all international regulations and attacked the plane carrying the Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia.

He reiterated that because of the continuation of crimes by the Iraqi Government after the victory of the Islamic combatants the formation of the upcoming non-aligned conference in Baghdad would not only have no benefit for the movement but would rather weaken it.

Referring to the issue of peace, Velayati stressed that as it had been previously declared, Iran would follow its endeavours until the complete fulfilment of its conditions set for peace.

During the meeting Dr Mokhlesi was introduced as the first Iranian ambassador to Cuba and the Cuban foreign minister expressed the hope that the existing ties between the two countries would expand in the future.

CSO: 4600/507

IRAN

SEYYED-SHIRAZI VISITS QOM, MEETS MONTAZERI

LD291210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Col Seyyed-Shirazi, the commander of the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, arrived in Qom yesterday afternoon and attended separate meetings with teachers at the Qom seminary and also with clergymen from the seminary who are to join the political-ideological sections of the various garrisons in the country.

During these meetings, he described the position of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the war fronts and submitted a report on the victorious Jerusalem operation.

The commander of the ground forces also met Ayatollah Montazeri last night. During this meeting, he reported the outcome of the victorious and fateful offensive by the brave forces of the Islamic Republic and conveyed the greetings of the combatants to him. Ayatollah Montazeri issued instructions and prayed for the final victory of the combative forces of Islam.

Then the ground forces commander met and conferred with the commanders and personnel of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Qom.

In a short interview with a Central News Unit correspondent, regarding cleansing other parts of the Islamic homeland of the filthy presence of the Ba'thist aggressors, Col Seyyed-Shirazi said: Thank God we are on the downhill stretch of the war. The enemy facing us is in no condition to threaten us in the least. God willing, with repeated blows and with the same clenched fists with which we started the battle, we shall retrieve all the occupied lands, and, with the same patience and tolerance our heroic nation has shown and with the blessings and leadership of the imam and the zeal of the combatants of Islam, we shall achieve final victory soon.

In connection with the shelling of the liberated lands, namely Khorramshahr and Abadan, by the mercenary enemy and its preventing the reconstruction of these sectors, he said: The opportunity for the wounded enemy to shell Khorramshahr will not last for long. These areas will soon be safe from enemy fire. God willing, this safety will coincide with the final victory of the forces of Islam.

CSO: 4640/324

IRAN

REPORT ON 'LORD OF AGES' AT FRONTS

GF021800 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 2 Jun 82

[Text] What you are about to hear is neither a rumor nor an attempt at humor. It is a fact which recently occurred in the southern sector of the warfront between Iran and Iraq.

A few nights ago while some guards and soldiers were holding vigil in their trenches, they saw a white-clad man on a white horse passing by them slowly. The unknown rider suddenly disappeared in front of the surprised eyes of the observers. The same thing occurred the following night at the same time. Following this the rumor of the appearance of the Lord of the Ages on the battlefield was borne.

On the third night around 100 people were waiting for the white rider. He again appeared at the appointed time. The innocent soldiers and guards rushed toward him and surrounded him. The white-clad rider, without a word, offered them water from his container. They each drank a few drops from the water container of the Lord of the Ages. The rider then disappeared from their surprised vision.

Those who had seen the Lord of the Ages and had drunk his water experienced strong religious feelings and emotions and were prepared for any action and martyrdom. The entire front was rife with religious feelings.

A number of the officers who had become suspicious decided to investigate. They joined the ranks of those waiting for the lord the following night. He again appeared and passed the crowd at the appointed time. As the officers began moving after him, he disappeared among the hills and a search for him was futile.

The next night the officers decided to give chase with a fast vehicle and to this end parked a helicopter nearby. When the Lord of the Ages appeared and passed them, they set after him with a helicopter and stopped him near some hills. He was a tall youth with tanned face clad in white clothes, his face hidden under a white net. He did not reply to their questions and remained

silent. Finally they decided to put him in the helicopter and threatened to throw him out should he maintain his silence. He was told: If you are the Lord of the Ages, you will survive; if not, you will die.

As soon as the officers pretended to want to throw him out of the helicopter, the youth shouted: stop, I will tell the truth. He continued: I am not alone. There are around 200 of us who are employed by the mobilization crusade, paid 400 tumans daily, for fanning up the religious emotions of the innocent youth on the fronts by our moves.

The false Lord of the Ages said that the routes taken were preplanned in such a way to pass hills following his appearance. The hills are located near areas with destroyed war equipment. Trucks are located among such areas which are camouflaged with colored canvas. He said: I pass the clearings fast and then enter the truck among the hills, the canvas falls and then nothing can be seen in the dark. He continued by showing the officers his hideout.

To date officers and NCO's of the army have caught eight night-prawling Lords of the Ages.

CSO: 4640/324

IRAN

CLANDESTINE RADIO ON CLASHES IN TEHRAN

GF011523 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] According to news agencies, armed clashes have resumed in various districts of Tehran following several days of relative quiet. In clashes during the past 48 hours at least 8 were killed and 11 wounded.

The opposition clashed with guards in three different parts of Tehran on Sunday. As a result--according to a claim by Radio Khomeyni--three of the antiregime armed opposition were killed. Eyewitnesses said that two of Khomeyni's guards were annihilated in this clash.

On Saturday Khomeyni's guards attacked the house of a group of the opposition members on Tehran's Farah Abad Avenue. The resultant armed clash left one of the opposition and two guards dead. The mullahs' media have not been reporting the number of the guards' losses for some time.

The regime's revolution guard corps in a statement issued yesterday claimed that it had discovered another group of Mojahedin-e Khalq in Tehran, attacked their hideout, killed or wounded a number of them, and arrested the rest. Radio Khomeyni cited the names of eight men and three women allegedly wounded or killed in the operation. As usual the number of dead mercenary guards was not given nor the date or place of the operation.

The Mojahedin-e Khalq organization in a communique issued in Paris claimed that at least 3 of the 11 reportedly killed or arrested recently were killed in clashes some months ago. The organization also claimed that its supporters attacked and killed two officials of the Islamic society of the Ministry of Education and their guards on Sunday in Tehran's Sepah Square.

CSO: 4640/324

OPPOSITION GROUPS CLASH IN ROME

GF071145 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT
6 Jun 82

[Text] According to the Free Voice of Iran correspondent in Rome, in a bestial attack by the hezbollahi garbage on peaceful demonstrations by antiregime Iranians, the terrorists of Khomeyni's regime severely injured six patriotic and freedom-loving Iranians. The hezbollahis, who were armed with bicycle chains and knives, shouted: "According to the decree of Imam Khomeyni, all of you are wagers of war against God and the Islamic Republic and it is lawful to take your blood!" When the regime opponents, mostly students, remained silent, they attacked them and beat them up viciously.

In this skirmish the antiriot police squad cordoned off the students and hezbollahis. The Italian police threw water on the Khomeyni agents, but they attacked the police and injured four policemen with knives. The hezbollahis then attempted to escape but were arrested. One hezbollahi who intended to kill the policemen is undergoing an operation. He suffered critical injuries in the skull, ribs and the lower parts of the body. Twenty other hezbollahis have been thrown into prison. The Italian police are following up the incident through the offices of the Interior Ministry. This was reported to our correspondent by an Italian journalist. [name indistinct].

According to the Free Voice of Iran correspondent in Rome, the persons who were injured by the hezbollahis are evidently members of Peykar, Mojahedin-e Khalq-e Iran and the Iran liberation movement, the latter being a monarchist group. In this report it is emphasized that the Mojahedin-e Khalq-e Iran members were demonstrating peacefully when they were victims of the attack by the hezbollahis and terrorists of Khomeyni's regime.

Some time ago, 150 hezbollahis, terrorists who had been sent from Iran, had attacked the dormitory of Iranian students in Mainz. In addition to wounding the antiregime Iranian students, they injured eight German policemen and were responsible for the killing of a German girl. Eighty-six members of this group were arrested and who are now in prison. They will soon be expelled in small groups on the decision of the government of Mainz.

The Italian Government had also expelled some hezbollahis who had earlier injured police officials and antiregime Iranians. It is expected that these 20 hezbollahis will also be sent out of Italy, but if those who are injured succumb to their injuries, the agents of the Khomeyni regime will be handed over to the criminal courts of that country.

CSO: 4640/324

IRAN

SARCHESHMEH'S COPPER FURNACE OPERATES ON STEAM

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 23 May 82 p 2

[Text] Kerman, (IRNA)--The copper furnace of the huge Sarcheshmeh Copper Complex in Kerman Province Thursday began its productional trial period in the presence of the Minister of Mines and Metals, Musaviani.

After his visit the minister praised the efforts of the committed workers of the copper complex. This furnace would be operational permanently by next week, the minister said, adding "this achievement in the country's industry is a form of struggle against US Imperialism and he asked the workers to fulfill their duties competently.

Before the Islamic Revolution the majority of work on the complex was carried out by American Employees but now the plant is being run by Iranian workers only. Parts needed for the plant were manufactured domestically at the Isfahan Steel Mill in Iran.

This plant was among a number of projects which were abandoned by US Imperialist companies. Anna Cunda and Parsons and Jordan after receiving most of the contract price, after learning that the Islamic government was determined to re-examine agreements of the previous regime with foreign companies.

Among other abandoned projects were the Landsat Satellite receiver station left by the American General Electric Comlany after receiving 25 million of the \$27 million contract price and the Iran-Japan Petrochemical Complex at Imam Khomeini Port, southern Iran, left by the Japanese Iran Chemical Development Company (ICDC).

CSO: 4600/497

BRIEFS

ROMANIAN ADVISERS TO VISIT--According to a report by the Voice of Iran correspondent, while authorities of Khomeyni's regime claim that they do not need foreign experts, a group of Romanian industrial experts will arrive in Tehran in order to resuscitate the paralyzed industry of the nation. Our correspondent adds: for the same purpose, a four man delegation led by the acting industries minister of the mullahs' regime left for Romania on Saturday in order to discuss and sort out the details of the collaboration of the experts of that country and Khomeyni's regime with the authorities. This delegation will also participate in a 6-day convention on the study of the modes of manpower training beginning in Romania on 10 May. Thus, after the Soviet Union, DPRK, Syria and some other countries of the Eastern bloc, now it is the turn of Romania to repair (?some of) the damage to the nation in various fields. [Text] [GF301654 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 30 May 82]

SHARI'ATMADARI MESSAGE--According to a report by the Voice of Iran correspondent in Qom, Ayatollah Seyyed Kazem Shari'atmadari prepared a message to the Iranian army and especially to the Azarbayjani soldiers, but the agents of Khomeyni regime stopped its publication. Our correspondent adds: Following the victory of the patriotic Iranian army and the liberation of Khorramshahr, Ayatollah Shari'atmadari prepared a congratulatory message and asked his aides to send it to the brave Iranian soldiers, but the agents of Khomeyni's regime who are in charge of his arrest, stopped this. Due to the opposition of the agents to the publication of the congratulatory message of Ayatollah Shari'atmadari, the aides of this source of emulation clashed with a number of the regime's guards. Three of Ayatollah Shari-atmadari's aides were taken to the hospital for treatment of their wounds. [Text] [GF310949 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 31 May 82]

BOMBS DEFUSED IN JAMARAN--"A Voice of Iran correspondent has reported that on Tuesday morning two powerful bombs were found and defused in Hoseyniyah Jamaran." Our correspondent reports that about an hour before Khomeyni's meeting with various officials in his residence, security agents discovered and defused the bombs. Had these two bombs exploded they would have caused heavy casualties and damage. Ending his report, our correspondent writes that several people have been arrested in connection with this. [NC021046 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 1 Jun 82]

AYATOLLAH KHO'I'S CABLE--His eminence the grand Ayatollah Kho'i, leader of world's Shi'ites, has responded to the cables of the leaders of the Khomeyni opposition groups and Iranian freedom-loving and nationalist organizations. According to the correspondent of Free Voice of Iran, the Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Abolqasem Kho'i, answered these telegrams that were sent on how to save the life of the Grand Ayatollah Shari'atmadari, writes: "If I had had to emulate someone, I would have certainly emulated Ayatollah Shari'atmadari." The Grand Ayatollah Kho'i, who has been for many years the true (?servant) of the king of the world's freeborn--Imam 'Ali--in his cable says that Khomeyni's regime is anti-Islam, condemns the persecution of true clergymen in Iran and asks for the freedom of the Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Kazem Shari'atmadari. [Text] [GF020546 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 1 Jun 82]

RECONSTRUCTION CRUSADE DELEGATION--The first delegation of representatives of Hojjat ol-Eslam Va'ez-e Tabasi, the trustee of Razavi holy shrine, arrived in Ahvaz from Mashhad in order to carry out the primary study for the reconstruction of the town of Hoveyzeh. The delegation held its first session in the presence of the Khuzestan governor general, the governor of Dasht'e (Azadagan) and the district governor of Hoveyzeh in the general governorate office yesterday afternoon. [Text] [GF030715 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 2 Jun 82]

SHOOTING ACROSS SHATT AL-'ARAB--According to an IRNA report, exchange of fire continued across Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab] during the past 24 hours. Our mighty gendarmerie combatants, opened fire on the Fao-Basrah axis inside Iraqi territory, destroyed two trucks carrying enemy personnel and prevented the movement of motor traffic by the mercenaries of the infidel Saddam along the Fao-Basrah road. [Text] [LD041842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Jun 82]

RAMHORMOZ GOVERNOR APPOINTED--The Khuzestan governor general has appointed Mr (Sarmast) as the new governor of Ramhormoz. [GF301701 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 30 May 82 GF]

GUARDS CORPS COMMANDERS--The commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, accompanied by all corps commanders, this morning met with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and commander-in-chief of the armed forces. At this meeting, the imam of 'Ummah, referring to the cohesiveness that prevails among the armed forces now, said that America plotted to sow disunity among those who could be active. Praise be to God, however, this plot has been doomed and neutralized thanks to the cohesiveness that has now been achieved among the armed forces. The commander-in-chief stressed: You should safeguard the unity and cohesion that now prevails between you and your other brothers, the army, the mobilization corps and others. The same applies to the tribes, who constitute an

enthusiastic force. The leader of the revolution further said that all those who are waiting in the hope that Iran will again become a monarchy or a non-religious democratic republic will end up in the graveyard. However, this depends on: "Support God and he will support you" [verse from Koran] that is, we must support God. Referring to our duty now, the imam of 'Ummah said: Our common enemies today are Israel and America, who are trying to destroy our prestige. You should repulse this common enemy. [Text] [LD031134 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Jun 82]

RECONSTRUCTING RUINED CITIES--Tehran, 29 May (IRNA)--On the occasion of the renovation of the Persian Gulf port of Khorramshahr, Prime Minister Musavi released a statement today. A portion of the statement said that the great and heroic nation of Iran had proved the truthfulness of God's promises in sacrificing their loved ones to God and had also taught a lesson to those who were contemplating aggression against Iranian territory. He further announced that the Iranian people's struggle against the imperialism of the United States and its agents, had opened a new chapter in the history of popular struggles. While praising the proposals made by the ulema and the people of the provinces on reconstructing the cities ruined by the Iraqi Ba'thist forces, Prime Minister Musavi in another portion of his statement gave some instructions to promote coordination in the reconstruction of the cities. [Text] [LD292102 Tehran IRNA in English 1943 GMT 29 May 92]

JAPANESE OIL PROJECT--Tehran, 29 May (AFP)--An Iranian draft plan for resuming work on the giant Japanese-Iranian petrochemical complex in Bandar Khomeyni, southern Iran, has been submitted to Japanese negotiators here, the newspaper ETTELA'AT reported today. Representatives from the Japanese consortium, led by the Mitsui firm, which owns 50 percent of the complex, are to return to Tehran in one month to give their response, the paper said citing Deputy Oil Minister Mostafa Najafabadi. Under the plan, an Iranian loan would provide financing for six months of work, the report said. The Iranian partners are from the National Iranian Petrochemical Industry Society. The complex was begun in 1973 and was 85 percent finished before work stopped because of Iran's war with Iraq. It is to be the largest petrochemical complex in the Middle East, and the Iranians are hoping for production to get underway in 1984. Discussions focused primarily on additional costs--estimated at 380,000 million yen (about 1,800 million dollars) by Japanese experts--arising from inflation, loan interest payments and the need to refurbish the factory, an informed Japanese source here said. Already 620,000 million yen (nearly 3,000 million dollars) have been invested in the project, Japanese experts said. The Japanese delegation arrived here May 19 for the talks, which ended Thursday. [Text] [NC291552 Paris AFP in English 1436 GMT 29 May 82]

MEETINGS WITH KHOMEYNI--Tehran, 31 May (IRNA)--Hojjat ol-Eslam Abdollah-nuri [name as received], Imam Khomeyni's representative in the reconstruction Jihad was received by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Monday morning. He presented a report on that organisation's activities to Imam Khomeyni. Imam Khomeyni, in the meeting, praised the devotional faithful struggles of the personnel of the organization. Meanwhile, Ayatollah Abolfazl Khansari [name as received], the Friday prayers leader and Imam Khomeyni's representative in Arak, Central Province, met and conferred separately with the imam, on Monday morning. [Text] [LD010534 Tehran IRNA in English 1930 GMT 31 May 82]

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TASHKENT FESTIVAL PARTICIPATION--Tehran--Iran will enter "The Bloody Rice" in the forthcoming Tashkent Film Festival, announced the Bureau of Film Research of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the IRNA reported yesterday. Also sent for screening in Federal Republic of Germany and India are films "The Rise of the Dawn," "The Spirit of God," "Crimes of Saddam," "Death to America," "My City--The City of Blood," "Martyrdom Seekers," "Appointment With Martyrdom," "This Is Your Voice," "The Story of Awakening" and "The Last Communique of Iman." The films which have gone to Germany and India mostly deal with the concepts of the Islamic Revolution. The Bureau meanwhile invited all the world's committed film-makers whose films focus on humane and morale issues, in addition to the problems of the deprived, to take part in the First Fajr International Festival scheduled to be held in Iran as of February 1 to 11, 1983. [Text] [Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 23 May 82 p 2]

JUDICIAL OFFICIALS--Tehran, 1 Jun (IRNA)--A four-day nationwide seminar of religious judges and Islamic revolutionary prosecutors opened here this morning. The seminar will discuss issues related to the shortcomings of the Islamic revolutionary courts, their performances and future policies. Those attending the seminar met with the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, this morning. After the meeting the head of the high judicial council, Mohammad Hashem Ahari, speaking to IRNA explained the idea behind holding the seminar. He said that during the session of the seminar circulars issued by the high judicial council as well as the future lines and programmes of the Islamic revolutionary courts would be explained to those attending the seminar. Among other issues to be brought in the course of the seminar, he added, would be pardons, idle lands, confiscation, ways of implementing verdicts of the Islamic revolutionary courts, and issues related to prisoners and prisons. [Text] [LD012022 Tehran IRNA in English 1924 GMT 1 Jun 82]

OFFICIAL TO USSR--Tehran, 19 May (IRNA)--The head of the Second Political Bureau of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, (Seyyed Hussein Malaek), left Iran for Moscow, the U.S.S.R. on Wednesday morning. In this trip, he is going to review the status of the diplomatic offices of the Islamic Republic of Iran in East European countries. [Text] [LD192046 Tehran IRNA in English 2001 GMT 19 May 82]

ARTILLERY EXCHANGES--Bakhtaran [name as transliterated], 28 May (IRNA)--Two vehicles and one munitions depot of the enemy were set ablaze by the artillery fire of the Islamic combatants in the Western fronts. The Islamic combatants stationed in Marivan, in Kordestan Province, fired on the enemy bunkers in Haft Van and Nazare [name as transliterated] within Iraq smashing two 130mm artillery pieces, one vehicle and several logistical points of the aggressor forces and inflicting considerable damage upon other installations. Also, the Islamic defenders in Paveh, Bakhtaran Province, bombarded the enemy bunkers in Tovaileh [name as transliterated] by their batteries inflicting heavy damage upon the aggressors and killing several Iraqi soldiers. [Text] [LD282036 Tehran IRNA in English 1719 GMT 28 May 82]

DIPLOMAT RECALLED FROM ZAIRE--Tehran, (IRNA)--The government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has recalled its charge d'affaires from Zaire in protest against the latter's decision for resuming diplomatic relations with the regime occupying Quds, said Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman here yesterday. The Iranian official said Iran regarded Zaire's move toward the Zionist regime as a hostile act in betrayal of Muslim interests. [Text] [Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 23 May 82 p 1]

'AL-SAFIR' CRITICIZES HAIG STATEMENT

PM041025 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 1 Jun 82 p 11

[Article by Joseph Samahah: "Nothing New From Haig"]

[Excerpts] "Today we are at a crossroads and we must endeavor to change the course of events in the Middle East if we are to hope for a more peaceful international order under which people can live in peace and under which conflicts can be settled without the use of force."

This is a part of U.S. Secretary of State Haig's statement outlining his country's views on the Middle East and other regions.

He called for "a change in the course of events" and offered a concept in no way different from previous U.S. official concepts. In other words, he maintained that some events are running contrary to what the United States wants, and that intervention is needed in order to put them back on course.

It is no wonder, therefore, that many circles here in Lebanon, which has experienced that old course and is well aware of its high price, became pessimistic when they heard the details of Haig's concept.

Even those who had wagered on the United States in a big way, such as our foreign minister, Fu'ad Butrus, expressed reservations after hearing the particulars of the U.S. approach.

And they are right. What exactly does Haig want? First of all, he wants to exploit the present phase in the Iraq-Iran war. The present state of the war really scares the Gulf rulers and is prompting them to search for any available security shield to protect them.

From the U.S. viewpoint the time is now ripe to exploit their fear or, in Haig's words, "their strategic anxiety."

It was natural that Haig should talk about the need to stop the war or, in other words, the need to prevent its possible consequences from materializing, and that, in raising this issue, he should recall the U.S. view that the rapid deployment force is the only safety valve currently available to the Gulf rulers.

This protection offer, coming at the "right" time, clearly has a political price, one to be paid primarily by the Arabs.

Haig has voiced his complete insistence on the Camp David agreements and the autonomy negotiations, and reaffirmed his country's commitment to Israel's security. He did not even mention the Prince Fahd Plan, or any other plan. He did not condescend to talk about mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel, as suggested by France. In a show of abundant intransigence he spoke about Camp David as an umbrella for any settlement, satisfied that this peace idea will gain more ground.

The real interpretation of this is that there is a need to weaken those opposed to Camp David.

There is no doubt that the tendency in Washington, as attested by Haig himself, is to "change the course of events," which means clashing with the forces seeking to dictate a different course, one which was not even considered at all when former Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat launched his own policy in the Middle East.

Can Lebanon escape the consequences of this U.S. policy? We must put aside the rosy language about the "educated and creative people," and we must take notice of the White House trend which will only bring us what it did in the past, only ten times worse.

The salvation of Lebanon depends not on the intention of the United States, or any other state, to move, but on the direction of such movement.

The continued U.S. clash with the resistance and the other forces opposed to Camp David, and its continued commitment to Israel and refusal to consider reasonable solutions outside the Camp David framework, will not calm the situation in Lebanon.

CSO: 4400/300

BUTRUS ON SITUATION, ARAB, U.S., SOVIET STANDS

NC052124 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus today met with U.S. Ambassador Robert Dillon for about 1 1/4 hours. Afterward, the U.S. Ambassador announced that Philip Habib is coming to Beirut, but that he did not know when.

Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus had earlier had intensified diplomatic contacts with the Lebanese envoy to the United Nations, Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, and the Lebanese ambassadors in major capitals. Minister Butrus said:

[begin recording] The prime minister talked to you last night immediately after leaving the Presidential Palace on the measures the government has decided to take because of the Israeli raids. The Lebanese envoy to the United Nations has lodged a documented complaint with the Security Council chairman, in which he asked the Security Council to immediately put an end to the Israeli aggressions against Lebanon. He then introduced a second memorandum in which he requested that the Security Council hold a general discussion session. Last night, the Security Council chairman convened a session at the end of which he issued a statement. This statement is not final or exhaustive, although it is issued in the name of the Security Council as a whole. Rather, it is a temporary measure, taken to give the Security Council more time to study the issue. It will hold a general discussion session today during which each party concerned will deliver its point of view and Lebanon will call for putting an end to the Israeli actions and denouncing Israel, and maybe more than that. These are the latest instructions we have sent to our delegation to the United Nations, after holding consultations by phone with his excellency the president and the prime minister. In addition, we had a quick contact with our delegation to the United States. Our ambassador in Washington has visited the U.S. State Department. This morning, New York time, he will meet with the assistant secretary of state for political affairs to convey our point of view in accordance with the instructions we have sent.

[Question] Your Excellency, Mr Minister, following this military deterioration, how do you view the mission of Philip Habib, who will arrive in Beirut on Monday?

[Answer] It is strange that Israel is lining up with some sides opposed to it and who want to abort Philip Habib's mission. This is extremely strange. I would like and hope that the Lebanese--all the Lebanese--would realize that Philip Habib's mission, regardless of my opinion and evaluation of the results that may be obtained through this visit--I have earlier said, and I still say, that I have reservations--but I believe that we should not commit or encourage any action that may lead, directly or indirectly to the abortion of Philip Habib's mission or to be pleased with any action that may lead to this. Philip Habib's mission could be consequential and we should not, especially in these circumstances, waste any opportunity.

[Question] Your Excellency, Mr Minister, at the beginning of this week you told the American press that there should be a U.S.-Soviet agreement to find a solution to Lebanon's issue. Could you tell us what motivated you to say that?

[Answer] The motive, sir, is that I have for about 6 years been following up the problems and developments in the Lebanese, Middle East and international areas. I believe that we are not achieving progress toward a solution and that the matters are still thorny. I have also noticed that there is something that cannot be ignored other than in one's hopes and inclinations--which is the fact that there are equations of power in the Lebanese arena--Arab, regional and international equations. Among these international equations is the fact that the Soviet Union has a role and significance, and there are sides that sympathize with it and it sympathizes with them, as well as the fact that there are sides sympathetic to the United States. If the United States, for example, finds fault with some European states--that they are not pragmatic or realistic, and that they follow philosophical theories and previously formulated opinions--it should, in line with its pragmatic philosophy, take into consideration the equations present in the Lebanese equation. In my opinion, neither it nor the Soviet Union is able, at the moment, to change these equations--maybe because they do not really want to do so. Anyway, as long as there are no changes or alterations in these equations, they must be taken into consideration. This equation says: Since the United States has an opinion and importance in what is taking place in the Middle East regarding the solutions for the problems of the Middle East crisis, and through the Middle East crisis the Lebanese crisis, it is imperative that neither of the two giants [the United States and Soviet Union] unilaterally solve or boast that it can solve the problem existing in the Middle East and in Lebanon, as long as the equations we know exist. Thus, there should be a dialogue between the two giants and an understanding, be it minimal, between them, because we, before any other country, are paying the price for the international differences and tension. We would benefit and we have the right to ask for that.

[Question] Your Excellency, Mr Minister, at noon today you received the personal representative of the secretary general of the Arab League. Could you tell us about your discussions?

[Answer] Sir, first of all, this was an opportunity to voice blame of the Arab states. After what took place in Lebanon today and yesterday, none of the Arab officials contacted us to console us or [word indistinct]. The only one who has expressed concern and moved in this regard is the secretary general of the Arab League. I here express my and Lebanon's thanks to him. His ambassador contacted us last night and told me that he had instructions from the Arab League secretary general to inform me that he was ready to undertake any task I might suggest and that he would do anything we asked him to do. I asked Ambassador al-Ma'muri this morning to request that the Arab League secretary general accept my invitation to visit Lebanon in the next 2 days to discuss some topics related to recent events and others. I also discussed with Ambassador al-Ma'muri the subjects related to the meeting of the miniauthority charged with task of formulating a strategy and the meeting of the Arab chiefs of staff scheduled to be held in the coming days. I wish that our Arab brothers would not be indifferent about what is taking place in Lebanon. There are painful conclusions we do not want to arrive at as a result of their stands. If our Arab brothers are really indifferent about what is taking place in Lebanon, this means that they are violating the basic principles of Arab solidarity and their duties as Arab brothers, and that they view Lebanon as if it were a hopeless object. We do not and will not accept this. Lebanon exists and is alive, and it will continue to live for all. If some are acting as if Lebanon had become Palestine--Israel is acting according to this view when it holds Lebanon responsible of any dispute or aggression that may take place against it by our brothers the Palestinians or others--we do not and will not accept this, whether regarding Israel, or the Arabs, or any other state.

[Question] Your Excellency, Mr Minister, could you tell us the results of the aggressions that took place yesterday and today?

[Answer] All I know is that the results are heavy losses in property and lives. I must also draw attention to a significant matter--the fact that most of the victims are Lebanese. [end recording]

CSO: 4400/300

LEBANON

IDDIH RETURNS FROM MOSCOW, MAKES STATEMENT

NC061952 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1638 GMT 6 Jun 82

[Text] Information Minister Michel Iddih returned to Beirut from Moscow this afternoon, cutting short his visit to the Soviet Union after receiving the news about the Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

He was received at the airport by (Suslikov), minister plenipotentiary at the Soviet Embassy in Beirut, and Radwan Mawlawi, director general of the Information Ministry.

At the airport, Minister Iddih made the following statement to our reporter Darwish 'Ammar:

[begin recording] [Question] Mr Minister, can you tell us about the results of your visit to Moscow?

[Answer] The visit was excellent. I wish to extend my thanks to the Soviet Government and the Soviet Embassy in Beirut, which arranged the visit. I held several meetings with very important personalities--members of the Central Committee and of the Supreme Soviet, Minister Sergey Lapin [State Television and Radio Broadcasting Committee chairman], TASS director general Losev, NOVOSTI chairman Tolkunov, PRAVDA chief editor Afanas'yev, all of whom are members of the Central Committee and two of them are members of the Supreme Soviet.

The meetings were very useful and the trip was very successful. However, after [hearing about] the first [Israeli] raid, I was compelled to cut my visit short. After Moscow, my program was to visit Leningrad and then Yerevan. However, I had to return immediately. Undoubtedly, what is taking place is very serious and we hope that our friends in the world will support us, now that we are in need of everybody's support to rescue our country. I am now proceeding immediately to the Council of Ministers. [end recording]

Replying to a question about the Soviet attitude toward the Israeli aggression against Lebanon, (Suslikov) said:

[begin recording] [Question] Mr Minister Plenipotentiary in the Soviet Embassy, can we learn the Soviet Union's opinion about the bestial raids Israel is launching on southern Lebanon?

[Suslikov in Arabic] I (?emphasize) the well-known peaceful policy of the Soviet Union. We [word indistinct] this Israeli invasion of Lebanese territory, and we hope that this invasion will stop immediately. I believe that the Soviet Union's stand on [word indistinct] Lebanon is known. As Comrade Breznhev said in his cable to President Ilyas Sarkis last year, we always (?struggle) for the unity and independence of Lebanon, an independent and peace-loving state. [end recording]

CSO: 4400/300

KENYA, TOGO IMPROVE LIBYAN TIES

London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 pp 7-8

[Text]

THE LIBYAN Jamahiriya has declared an interest in strengthening economic ties with Kenya by setting up joint ventures in agriculture, tourism, fishing and transport. In March, Mr Martin Shikuku, a Kenyan Assistant Minister for Planning and Economic Development, headed a ten-man delegation on a fact finding mission to Libya to explore the possibilities for co-operation between the two countries. On 20th March Nairobi radio quoted him as saying that the Jamahiriya wanted Libyan Arab Airlines and Kenya Airlines to inaugurate direct flights between Tripoli and Nairobi. He added that the Libyan Education Secretariat had agreed to send Arab teachers to Kenya, while Kenya would send Kiswahili teachers to the Jamahiriya.

The moves towards greater Libyan-Kenyan co-operation reflect the Jamahiriya's long-standing commitment to close ties with its fellow African countries, which has cultural as well as economic and political aspects. On 19th March President Eyadema of Togo received a three-man Libyan delegation that was visiting the west African country for talks on the construction of an Islamic cultural centre in the capital, Lome. The project will be financed by the joint Libyan-United Arab Emirates Commission for Islamic Cultural Centres.

The Lome centre is one of a series being set up with Libyan assistance in African countries. The latest opened in Rwanda last June.

LIBYA CREATES JOBS IN LEICESTER

London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 17

[Article by Alan George]

[Text]

THE LIBYAN Jamahiriya's development has been on such a scale that visitors often describe the country as a vast construction site. Libya's 1981-85 development plan alone allocates \$62.5 billion to expand all sectors, from industry and agriculture to health, education and roads. With construction pressing ahead on such a range of projects, Libya has needed a fully array of construction equipment. One of the firms helping to meet requirements is Leicester-based Goodwin Barsby, which manufactures specialised asphalt and rock crushing machinery.

Goodwin Barsby's first involvement in Libya was through orders placed by Indian contracting firms. The India Roads Construction Corporation and the International Airports Authority of India placed important orders in connection with their construction projects. The British equipment, however, soon attracted a wider interest, and the Libyan contracting firm Arab Union United Corporation recently placed an order for two of Goodwin Barsby's Goliath mobile crushing and screening plants, which are used for processing wadi gravel and limestone rock. AUCC is currently considering the purchase of more Goodwin Barsby plant.

Libya is aware that one of the major constraints on its socio-economic development programme is the shortage of skilled workers that characterises any Third World country. The 1981-85 development plan plus special emphasis on technical training for the Jamahiriya's citizens, and Goodwin Barsby is playing a role towards that end. The firm currently has seven engineers in Libya whose task is to install and commission the firm's plant, and to train citizens to take over and

operate the machinery.

The British firm, which exports about 85 per cent of its output, sees Libya as an extremely important destination for its products. After only fourteen months of involvement in the Jamahiriya, Goodwin Barsby has already won orders valued at £1.660.000, and Libya accounts for about one quarter of the firm's total overseas sales.

At a time of severe recession in the UK, in which the construction industry has been particularly hard-hit, export orders have taken on a new significance. Many of Goodwin Barsby's 200 workers would doubtless have been laid off had it not been for the Libyan orders.

New product range

Following a major development programme over the past two years, Goodwin Barsby now boasts a full range of the most modern rock crushing and asphalt machinery, which it offers at highly competitive prices. The Ajax and Goliath mobile rock crushers, and the Turbomatic 100 Drum Mixer, for asphalt processing, have proved particularly popular. The Ajax has an output capacity of 150 tonnes per hour, and the Turbomatic asphalt mixer, which is fully computer controlled, can be operated either on the move or *in situ*, at capacities of up to 200 tonnes per hour. The slightly smaller Roadbatch range of asphalt mixers, which have been sold to the International Airports Authority of India for use in Libya, has also proved a major success.

Goodwin Barsby is also proud of its after-sales service. 'We can guarantee customers an efficient, reliable and prompt service. It is first class, and avail-

able worldwide,' said David Strutt, the firm's Export Sales Director.

Mr Strutt is impressed by the competence of Libyan construction personnel. 'They are extremely polite, and know just what machinery they want,' he said. Confirming the experience of other British businessmen who have first-hand knowledge of the country, Mr Strutt added that Goodwin Barsby had not come up against any special problems in its trade with the Jamahiriya. The shortage of quality hotel accommodation in the capital, Tripoli, had been an irritant, he said, but he expressed his confidence that this difficulty would soon fade into the past. A number of major hotels have recently opened, and more are nearing completion. The next to open will be the 365-room Grand Hotel, on Tripoli's seafront.

David Strutt is optimistic that his company will continue to play an important role in Libya's development. 'We hope that 1982 will see an even greater expansion of our involvement in Libya than last year,' he declared. 'As the largest single overseas destination for our products, the Jamahiriya is very close to my heart,' he added.

CSO: 4500/188

MAJOR LEISURE FACILITIES UNDERWAY

London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 18

[Text]

THE SWEDISH firm Skanska Cementgjuteriet has won a \$25 million contract to extend and upgrade the Jamahiriya's national museum, in Tripoli. The existing museum is housed in two separate buildings, separated by a wide road. Part of the museum is in the 2,000-year-old citadel that is one of the Libyan capital's major landmarks. The other section is housed in a nearby building, within the citadel walls and dating from the time of the Italian occupation in the 1930s.

The road separating the two parts of the museum will be closed, and Skanska will erect a three-storey building in the resultant space. The Swedish firm will also upgrade and renovate the existing museum buildings. When the project is complete, in 1983, the national museum will have an exhibition area of about 9,000 square metres.

The scheme was designed by the American firm Henningson Durham & Richardson, and a contract for construction supervision has been awarded to the Edinburgh office of the British consultants Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall & Partners.

In another important leisure development for Tripoli, South Korea's Samsung Construction Company has signed an \$85.3 million contract for the first stage of the Nasr Forest Project, an impressive scheme for a major leisure complex, to include a

zoo and botanical gardens. The first phase entails the construction of zoological gardens on a 31,000 square metre site. About forty animal cages will be built, and Samsung will also supply the animals. The first stage is due for completion in 1985.

Later this year, Samsung reportedly hope to win contracts worth \$146.9 million for the second and third stages of the Nasr Forest Project. Stage two is for a botanical garden and amusement park, and stage three is for a sports complex.

While the Jamahiriya is pressing ahead with plans to provide a full range of man-made leisure facilities for its citizens, the country's natural resources for recreation and tourism are not being neglected. In March it was announced that the Finnish consultancy Dovecon is co-operating with the Jamahiriya's Civil Engineering & Office Utilities concern in an environmental study of 23 coastal towns, excluding Tripoli and Benghazi. The main objective of the report, due for completion in 1983, is to evaluate the potential for tourism and recreation.

It was also disclosed that Dovecon is working on a masterplan to develop a stretch of coast 20 kilometres long and 100 kilometres wide, in Tripoli. The eastern end extends into the Suq al Talaat area of the city, where a major complex of hotels and offices is nearing completion.

BRIEFS

DUBLIN'S TIES WITH TRIPOLI--Another EEC member country, Ireland, is intending to increase its trade with the Jamahiriya. The Irish Agriculture Minister, Mr Brian Lenihan, is to pay an official visit to Libya in order to boost cattle exports, the Irish Times reported on 17th April. The decision followed an internal dispute in Ireland between cattle breeders, who are anxious to sell as many cattle as possible, and food manufacturers, who would prefer increased exports of cattle products. Increasing exports would suit both groups. Ireland has enjoyed steadily increasing sales of cattle to Libya, and has a favourable trade balance with the Jamahiriya. Irish trade with Libya was worth about £80 million in the first nine months of 1981. [Excerpt] [London JAMAHI-RIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 6]

FRENCH-BUILT VESSELS JOINT EVACUATION CELEBRATIONS--A convoy of ten French-built fast-attack Combattante vessels went on display in the Gulf of Sirte as Libya enjoyed a holiday atmosphere on 28th March, marking the twelfth anniversary of the evacuation of British military bases in Libya. The anniversary of the British evacuation was marked as a national holiday, with celebrations and rallies staged in towns and villages throughout the Jamahiriya. The French vessels, part of a \$496 million order placed with Construction Mecanique de Normandie in 1977, took part in exercises attended by Libyan leader Muammer Qadhafi and the Armed Forces Chief of Staff, Brigadier Mustapha al Kharroubi. [Excerpts] [London JAMAHI-RIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 6]

BELGIAN HOUSING FOR MISRATA--The Lamy company of Verviers, Belgium, has won a \$12.5 million subcontract to supply housing and other associated facilities for construction workers at the Mistrata steelworks. The award was made by West Germany's Friedrich Krupp, the leader of a consortium supplying a steel production plant for the Mistrata complex. Lamy's order, for completion in October, includes housing for 2,000 people, a hospital, schools, restaurant, shops, bakeries, swimming pools and other sports facilities. The Mistrata steelworks is the largest single project in the Jamahiriya's 1981-85 development plan. The \$3.3 billion first phase, for completion by 1985, provides for an annual capacity of 1.2 million tonnes of steel. [London JAMAHI-RIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 18]

TRIPOLI WATER PLAN UNDER DEVELOPMENT--Britain's Ewband & Partners, in association with Rendell Palmer & Tritton, also of the UK, is reportedly well-placed to win a major consultancy award for a sea water desalination plant in Tripoli. The desalination plant will have an eventual daily capacity of 462,000 cubic

metres, and will be one of the largest units in the world. The project is the third stage of a master plan to secure adequate supplies of high quality water for domestic use in the Libyan capital. The first two stages are already under way. The main contractor for both is West Germany's Philip Holzmann, which is working on contracts together worth \$202.7 million. The British Pen-col consultancy firm is undertaking design and construction supervision on both contracts. Work started about one year ago on the first stage, which entails building a pumping station and reservoirs, and developing a well-field with 89 boreholes south of the city. The pumping station will work at a maximum capacity of about 4,000 litres per second. The Yugoslavian firm Geotehnika is engaged in drilling the new wells, and part of the field should be commissioned in summer. At first, there will be enough pressure for the water to reach Tripoli without the assistance of pumps, and a temporary pipeline has already been laid. Work on the second stage of Tripoli's water supply master plan started about six months ago, and involves the construction of a smaller pumping station to pump water to the city from the desalination plant. [London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 18]

TURKISH CONTRACTS ESTIMATED AT \$6 BILLION--The Turkish firm Ozdemir Insaat has won a \$140 million contract to build 900 homes and associated infrastructure at the town of Zliten, about 150 kilometres east of Tripoli, it was disclosed in March. The contract, awarded by Zliten municipality, includes the construction of two bridges, three administrative buildings, six football pitches, and the drilling of seven new water wells. The Ankara-based firm has also won two contracts for work in the village of Tninay, near Bani Walid to the south of Tripoli. A \$6.8 million contract is for 66 homes, and a \$2.9 million award is for a police station and 34 houses. More than one hundred Turkish construction firms are engaged in the Jamahiriya's development programme. At the end of last year the value of Libyan contracts on which Turkish firms had started, or were about to start, was estimated at \$6 billion. [London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 18]

SURVEY FOR MAJOR PIPELINE--The Yugoslav civil engineering and mining concern Rudis has won a \$600,000 contract for initial survey work for a major pipeline in the Hamahiriya, which will carry water from subterranean aquifers in the desert to the coastal zone between Benghazi and Sirte. The Yugoslav news agency Tanjug reported on 27th February that Rudis will undertake a geodetic survey, involving aerial photography, to prepare a map showing a suitable route for the pipeline. The 2.4 metre-diameter, 1,235 kilometre pipeline will carry about 2 million cubic metres of water per annum from the Tazerbo and Sarir areas, in south east Libya, for domestic and industrial use, and for the irrigation of some 50,000 hectares of the coastal belt. Italian and Japanese consortia have expressed interest in building for construction work on the five-year, \$7 billion scheme, but tenders have yet to be invited. Project and construction manager is Brown & Root of the US. [London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 pp 18-19]

NEW PHARMACY FACULTY FOR AL FATEH UNIVERSITY--The Rad concern of Yugoslavia has won a contract worth more than \$67.5 million to build a pharmacy faculty at Tripoli's Al Fateh University, it was disclosed in March. The contract, won against stiff competition from Italian and Swiss firms, will take 30 months to

complete. Consultant and construction supervisor is OTH International of Paris. The new faculty, to be built on a 40,000 square metre site, will mark a major step towards the completion of the entire Al Fateh University scheme, a key project in the Libyan Jamahiriya's \$62.5 billion 1981-85 development plan. [London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 19]

INDUSTRIAL ESTATE FOR BANGHAZI--Benghazi Municipality is pressing ahead with plans for a light industrial estate on the coast about five kilometres north of the city centre, it was reported in March. Several plots have been allocated for factories, but site surveys will have to be conducted before the scheme can be confirmed. Industry takes pride of place in the Jamahiriya's 1981-85 development plan. 4.3 billion Libyan dinars have been allocated for industrial projects, accounting for 23 per cent of total planned investments. Heavy industry has been accorded LD 2.73 billion, and light industry LD 1.2 billion. [London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 19]

FRENCH EXPORTS REGISTER LARGE INCREASE--After a period of strained relations which adversely affected trade ties, French-Libyan trade has begun to expand sharply. Recently published figures show that in 1981 French exports to the Libyan Jamahiriya increased by 75 per cent to \$826.7 million. Peugeot cars were the main export, followed by a wide range of consumer goods. Imports from Libya--mainly oil--totalled \$446.4 million in 1981, a slight fall on the 1980 figure. Relations between the two countries reached a low point in early 1980, after the January uprising in the south Tunisian mining town of Gafsa. Paris joined the chorus of unsubstantiated allegations by western countries of Libyan involvement in the rebellion. In February 1980 the French embassy in Tripoli and consulate in Benghazi were damaged by demonstrators protesting against the French accusations, and against wider French interference on the African continent. The victory of Francois Mitterand's Socialists in the May 1981 general elections, however, paved the way for a new era in French-Libyan relations. [London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 19]

BRAZILIAN INVESTMENT IN OIL EXPLORATION--Petroleo Brasileiro (Petrobras) expects to invest a total of \$48 million during its five year contract, awarded in 1980, to explore in a 29,600 square kilometre area in the Murzuk basin in the south west of the Jamahiriya, the London weekly Middle East Digest disclosed on 12th March. The journal added that Libya supplies about 38,000 barrels of oil per day to Brazil, out of total daily imports of 850,000 barrels per day. The latest bulletin of the Brazilian Central Bank shows that Brazil's imports from the Jamahiriya in the first nine months of 1981 totalled \$282.7 million, a sharp rise on the 1980 total of \$135.2 million. In the first nine months of 1981, Brazilian exports to Libya were only \$9.7 million, compared with the 1980 total of \$35.2 million. [London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 19]

CHEMICALS CONTRACT GRANTED--The Jamahiriya's General Company for Chemicals Industries is to extend its contract with the West German firm KHD Engineering for operation, maintenance and training services at the Abu Kammash chemicals complex. The Cologne-based firm says that its existing three-year contract has been 'highly satisfactory'. Located on the coast near the Tunisian

frontier, the Abu Kammash complex was built by a West German consortium--including KHD--and opened in 1980. It is one of the Jamahiriya's key industrial plants, with an annual capacity of 60,000 tonnes of polyvinyl chloride, 50,000 tonnes of caustic soda and 40,000 tonnes of table salt. A \$28 million contract for an industrial and medical gas plant near Tripoli is expected to be signed shortly by a French-Italian joint venture of L'Air Liquide and Techint. The client is the Jamahiriya's Light Industry Secretariat. The plant, whose main product will be oxygen, will take about two years to complete. [London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 19]

TRAINING FOR STEELWORKERS--Britain's Ingersoll Engineering Projects, Austria's Voest-Alpine, and the Italian firm Techint have been short-listed by the Jamahiriya's Heavy Industry Secretariat for a \$150 million contract to build two training schools for the Misrata steel complex. The schools, one in Tripoli, the other in Misrata, will each cater for 1,000 trainees. The Misrata steelworks is the largest single project in the Jamahiriya's \$62.5 billion 1981-85 development plan. The \$3.3 billion first stage, scheduled for completion during the plan period, will have an annual capacity of 1.2 million tonnes per annum. The second stage, for completion by 1991, will increase capacity to 5 million tonnes per annum, and the final stage entails expansion to an annual capacity of 7 million tonnes per annum by the year 2000. The training schools contract will be one of the last to be awarded for the first stage of the scheme. In February, Ingersoll won a \$42 million contract to train steelworkers in Britain, and both the other short-listed firms have also won contracts for the Misrata steelworks. Last year, Voest-Alpine won contracts valued at nearly \$1 billion for the supply of steelmaking equipment, while Techint is a member of an Italian consortium that last year won three orders together worth \$300 million for non-production facilities at the plant. [London JAMAHIRIYA REVIEW in English No 24, May 82 p 19]

CSO: 4500/188

BRIEFS

RENAULT FACTORIES PLANNED--Renault, the state-owned French vehicle manufacturer, has announced plans to establish two plants in Tunisia to make both cars and components, it was reported from Paris recently. The value of the deal was not revealed, but Renault has said that it will have a 55 per cent stake in the capital of the vehicle assembly plant, to be called RMT, and a 60 per cent share in the components unit, to be called RIT. Tunisian banks will take up the remaining equity, the report said. Renault's decision is seen as a bid to strengthen its position in the North African market. It is already well-established in Morocco, while its sales in Tunisia currently amount to about 3,000 cars annually. Renault assembles its R4 model in the Tunisian national STIA corporation, which produces a range of European models. Renault aims to increase its share of the Tunisian market when the factory begins production at the end of 1983. Fiat of Italy and the French company Peugeot are Renault's principal rivals in a market which amounted to 18,500 cars and light commercial vehicles last year. The agreement is expected to provide about 600 new jobs. Key components such as engines will continue to be exported from France, the report added. The ban on Renault imposed by the Arab Boycott of Israel (An-Nahar Arab Report & MEMO, March 1) does not affect its dealings with Tunisia and a number of other North African countries. [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO No 18, 3 May 82 p 11]

CSO: 4500/186

LIFE IN ALIEN WORKERS' SHANTYTOWN DESCRIBED

Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS in English 20 May 82 p 3

[Text]

AL AIN (EN): In a remote location on the outskirts of Al Ain over 40,000 men live inside what is known as the Pathan town. It stretches for over three kilometres in a semi-circular shape near the rocky hills which resemble the mountainous regions where the Pathan tribes live on the border areas between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Only men live in the Pathan town of Al Ain inside shacks almost uniform in their design with each shack comprising one large room, a yard in front and a small bathroom. The streets of this town are actually narrow and winding lanes and only a town resident would know how to find his destination there. A striking feature which never fails to surprise the first-time visitor are the flags hoisted on each of the town's houses.

They may at first be taken as some form of decoration but the fact of the matter is that they are tribal flags. Each one of them indicates the Pathan tribe of the people living under its roof. This feature becomes a frightening one when the differences and feuds between these tribes are borne in mind. Indeed, it has been claimed that the town with its tribal divisions, evident in the grouping of houses and the flags flown atop is a time-bomb liable to explode any time the inherent feuds erupt in violence.

At any rate, the wise men among them have so far succeeded in containing the occasional outbursts which are closely suppressed to allow the men to attend to their livelihood for which they have come to the country.

The Pathans are devout Muslims careful to perform their prayers and for this reason about eight mosques are set up in their town. It could be for this reason that they regard their stay in the country as a legitimate right although a significant part of their numbers have either entered the country through illegal channels or are staying illegally. They complain about their poor housing facilities and want to see their town supplied with water and electricity by the authorities, although their houses have come up without permits from the municipality.

Nawab Khan of the town's residents, who works on a plantation belonging to a national, says that he and his roommates pay 90 dirhams daily for a tanker of water (their one-room house shelters 30, while Ahmed Afdal who works as a driver for one of the companies in Al Ain says that the municipality refuses to supply power to many of the houses there (the municipality says it has not given permits for erecting those houses).

Darien Saleh, another resident of the town, wants the state to be responsible for their accommodation but when asked to account for the large number of unemployed Pathans in the town who are staying in the country illegally, merely asserts that he has a valid visa and a job.

Besides the illegal residence status of many of the Pathans in the town and the feuds among them which may spark violence they pose a greater threat to the society's internal security. They are a town of men without wives and families. They live in constant deprivation of the natural

conditions of life where a man lives as part of a family with the wife who provides love and companionship. This makes their life harsh and, therefore, they become harsh people. Their incomes are well below the standards required by law to allow them to bring in their families and they, on their part, prefer to keep their families behind as they consider the time they will spend in the emirates as a period of austerity where every fils should be saved. Such conditions are not the making of a healthy environment and it is natural that crime should thrive amidst conditions of this kind.

How do these people enter the country in such numbers and then stay for too long a time? Abdul Rahman Ahmed Al Shaer, Director of Labour and Labourers' Office in Al Ain, blamed private sector companies for the problem. He explained that those companies apply for collective visas to bring in the required labourers to complete the projects on condition that their own personnel will select the labourers required and will repatriate them after completion of projects. Naturally, he added these companies head for Asian countries to bring in cheap labour but do so through an agent who trades in collective visas by selling them to other agents. He added that the agent who recruits the workers does not pay any attention to whether they are qualified for the job or not since his own concern is how much the worker will pay to get the

job. The result, he said, is many workers unfit for the job required. enter the country and the company concerned is forced to lay them off. But to avoid paying for their repatriation, the companies concerned grant them unpaid leave or holidays and, consequently, they stay jobless until they find other employment, and when this happens the company which brought them in gives them the required release.

Another fact which Abdul Rahman revealed is that a large number of workers run away from the employers who sponsor them. They do so, he added, because the employer either fails to pay their wages regularly or pays very low wages and since the worker had paid a large sum in the first place to get the job, he feels that he must make up for the costs he had borne to enter the country. In addition, he added, there is a large number who enter the country illegally.

Colonel Salem Al Tajer, Deputy Director of Al Ain police, points out that Pathan workers have brought to the country new and dangerous kinds of crimes. "They came from a tribal society where feuds are plenty and revenge is common and most the revenges in Al Ain take place inside the Pathan town," he said. Moreover, he said for some time we found that escaped criminals and outlaws were being helped and hidden inside the town but the situation has never been out of police control.

DETAILS GIVEN ON MAN-MADE PETROLEUM EXPLORATION ISLANDS

Dubay KHALEEJ TIMES in English 16 May 82 p 1

/Text/

TWO man-made islands, each 50,000 square metres in size, now dot the UAE waters, promising to give a big boost to off-shore oil exploration.

Created some 73 kilometers off Abu Dhabi and designed as a major exploration and drilling base, the two islands—Zubbaya and Halat Hail—are the only ones of their kind in the Third World. In fact, the only other such “industrial bases” in the world exist in the North Sea and along the Canadian coast.

According to the Abu Dhabi Company for Onshore Operations (Adco) officials, these two islands are the first of their kind to be used as industrial bases, in the Arab world. Zubbaya and Halat Hail, which are located 15 and 31 kilometres from the nearest shoreline respectively are to be initially used as a “base camp” for exploratory drilling for oil in the nearby concessions.

At a Press conference in Abu Dhabi, yesterday, top Adco officials disclosed that exploratory drilling for oil and gas in the proven reserves would commence next month, from these two islands. It was indicated that substantial reserves are present in the area.

After a series of experiments, dredging operations were conducted near these islands, and it was discovered that the earth dug up from the shallow sea-bed, combined with sand bags, concrete blocks and filter fabric would suffice

to build an island in the sea. Accordingly 3,000 concrete blocks, 16,000 slope bags, 11,000 bottom bags and 66,000 square metres of filter fabric was used to build the two islands.

The islands offer facilities for manpower and storage. It is estimated that at the peak of the operations more than 100 people would be engaged in drilling. Material, which has to be transported from distant places to the drilling sites, would be stored on these islands.

Oil company officials point out that not only would these islands be economically more feasible, they would also ensure safety of the personnel on drilling sites.

Special channels for the safe navigation of work boats and supply vessels have been dredged. At Zubbaya the length of this channel is 17,000 metres, while at Halat Hail it is 2,000 metres. For anchorage purposes, the company is employing huge steel blocks which have a protective coating.

These 70-ton ‘steel caissons’ to be used as quays for the vessels were fabricated in Sharjah. Each harbour on the island will have its own ramp.

Fabrication work on the Zubbaya was completed last February, while at Halat it was completed last April. In all 270,000 cubic metres of material was dug up from the sea, and only 60,000 cubic metres of material was used from outside for the construction of these islands.

The islands have cost 11 million dollars.

CSO: 4400/294

BRIEFS

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS COMPLETED--The Ministry of Public Works and Housing completed construction projects worth Dh 33.5 million during April. The projects included a primary school in Abu Dhabi and a post office and a 24-class room primary school for girls in Dubai. According to a statistical report, 58 low-cost houses were also constructed during the month, including 40 houses in Ajman, 12 houses in Safeyah and six houses in Khor Khuwair areas in Ras Al Khaimah. Besides, two primary schools for girls, one each at Umm Qafa area of Al Ain and Abu Dhabi, were built. The Ministry of Public Works and Housing is implementing construction projects costing Dh 9 million in Fujairah also. The projects include a health clinic in Murbh, a school health clinic, four mosques and 15 low-cost houses at Madab and a boundary wall for Masafi School. Work on these projects is expected to be completed in about 18 months. A new park for women and children was opened in Al Marijib area of Al Ain yesterday. The park is spread over an area of 34,200 square metres. Mr Mohamed Ali Nafees, director of the department of parks of Al Ain Municipality said yesterday that the municipality had so far set up 25 parks in Al Ain and several others were in different stages of completion. [Text] [Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 19 May 82 p 3]

CEMENT MAKER FEARS PRICE WAR--Government intervention in the UAE's cement industry is needed to head off a potential price war and a dangerous state of over-production, according to the National Cement Company of the UAE. National Cement's general manager Nizar Sibai warned last week that the UAE cement industry would not survive such a price war which would endanger the whole UAE economy as well. Continued government inaction will result in the UAE having an installed capacity for cement production exceeding that of any other country in the entire history of mankind, according to Mr Sibai. At present, the local market is barely able to absorb the country's total cement production, and the industry has a hard time competing internationally because of the relatively high price of Emirate cement. Producers feel the government is responsible for this high cost because the government-owned Abu Dhabi National Oil Company refuses to sell them fuel at prices below the international market level. With the market now saturated, industry fears focus on new cement plants that are about to come on stream. According to National Cement the UAE's cement industry, including the plants under construction and already contracted, will eventually have a production capacity of 10 million tonnes a year, an amount equal to 10 tonnes per person. The industry fears that these new companies will have to sell at cost price or below cost to obtain a share of the cement market. [Text] [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 20, 17 May 82 p 5]

JOINT CUSTOMS COUNCIL--The UAE cabinet has approved the establishment of the country's first joint customs council, the UAE news agency WAM reported last week. The council, which is to be based in Abu Dhabi, will come under supervision of the Economy and Commerce Ministry and will include the directors of customs officers in the seven Emirates. The task of the new body will be to coordinate the activities of the local customs departments and to unify customs regulations and tariffs in the country. It will also be responsible for proposing special regulations to combat smuggling and fraud and for controlling the flow of imports and exports. [Text] [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 20, 17 May 82 p 5]

FINANCE MINISTER REASSURES FOREIGN BANKS--The UAE's policy of favouring locally owned banks is not intended to harm foreign bankers already established in the Emirates, the UAE's Minister for Finance and Industry Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid indicated last week. Sheikh Hamdan told the UAE's Federal National Council that the government would take no measures to damage the economic interests of resident foreign banks and he stressed that the UAE's economy is and will remain an open one. Sheikh Hamdan praised the contribution of foreign banks to the UAE's economic and commercial life and he affirmed that no moves would be taken to force these banks to cede a proportion of their shares to UAE citizens. He said the government had received offers from some banks in the UAE asking for 60 percent local participation in their capital. In the meantime Sheikh Hamdan said the government had ceased granting licences for foreign banks to enter the banking system of the Emirates and he told the Council there were now 28 foreign banks and 21 locally owned banks in the UAE. All government credits were now being paid through national banks and "the government has advised all the ministries to transfer their financial matters to the national banks," Sheikh Hamdan stated. Additional aid to local banks would come in the future, he declared, when individual governments in the Emirates start depositing their assets at the Central Bank. A part of these deposits would be re-deposited by the Central Bank in national banks at low rate of interest, the Finance Minister declared. In a related development, Sheikh Hamdan told the Council that the Central Bank's regulations now stipulate that 60 percent of money-changing shops should be owned by UAE nationals. [Text] [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 20, 17 May 82 p 6]

PETROLEUM INVESTMENT COMPANY PLANNED--The Abu Dhabi government is studying plans to set up a \$500 million company to undertake international petroleum investments, the UAE's official news agency reported last week. The agency said the plan for a company owned jointly by the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority and the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company was discussed last week by the Emirate's National Consultative Council which decided to refer it for further study by the Council's Legislative, Legal and Financial Committee. The draft law to set up the company would enable it to undertake projects involving oil, petrochemicals, exploitation of energy resources, oil refining and transporting oil and petrochemicals. It will also be able to carry out projects with other companies to explore for oil and gas, construct and manage projects owned by the company itself or by other firms and invest in non-oil energy sources and advanced energy technology. In addition, it will be entitled to own, rent or lease oil engineering equipment and installa-

tions as well as contribute towards the financing of projects through loans and guarantees and by purchasing shares or bonds which are related to its activities. The draft law stipulates that the company will have its headquarters in Abu Dhabi and the Council will be able to establish branches of the company both inside and outside the state. The draft law calls for the issuance of 500,000 shares of \$1,000 each. The company will operate in accordance with a memorandum of association issued by the shareholders and the company's board of directors will be empowered to increase or reduce the capital. The draft law had been approved by the Executive Council of the Emirate a week earlier, the agency report stated. [Text] [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 20, 17 May 82 pp 9, 10]

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